

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (162-49)

DATE: 6/10/63

FROM : SAC PAUL H. STODDARD

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA

This is to record that at approximately 4 a.m. 6/7/63 Attorney [redacted] was contacted telephonically after he had called the office. He related his client WILLIAM COVELLI had been kidnaped and subsequently released the same night. He indicated that COVELLI had stated that two FBI agents had kidnaped him. [redacted] was advised that the information he had furnished did not indicate COVELLI had been transported in interstate commerce and, therefore, no kidnaping jurisdiction of the FBI, but he was informed that there was a possible violation of the impersonation statute and, therefore, action would be taken immediately. He stated he wanted to be present at the time his client was interviewed and, therefore, proceeded immediately to Kenosha, Wis.

Enroute [redacted] stated he wanted to drop by and pick up [redacted] detached Milwaukee detective for John Doe investigation. [redacted] stated he wanted him to be present during this investigation. [redacted] was very firmly and promptly advised that this office conducted its own investigations and that if he wanted this man to be along he would have to handle it himself and that this office would interview COVELLI. This individual did not participate in any interviews conducted by this office.

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It is further recorded that while at Kenosha [redacted] stated he was not interested in any publicity concerning this case.

On the afternoon of 6/9/63 I received a call from PCI [redacted]
[redacted] He advised [redacted]

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PHS:mg
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162-49-121

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[Signature]

MI 162-49

The writer immediately telephoned the Bureau and spoke to [redacted] He was advised he should contact [redacted] and Mr. DE LOACH's office as I felt this office should make a positive statement concerning this case since it was going to receive publicity. He called back in about 15 minutes and said to go ahead, that the Bureau was in agreement. This statement was thereafter given to [redacted] indicated he intended [redacted]

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On 6/7/63 I received a call from [redacted] Special Investigative Division, at 11:56 a.m. He stated he felt our teletype was completely satisfactory. He wanted to insure, however, that we resolved the allegations against FBI personnel and thereafter to submit a summary teletype of our plans and procedures.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (162-49)

DATE: June 11, 1963

FROM : SA Alexander P. LeGrand; SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI
IGA

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On 6-11-63, on instructions received from ASAC J. Wallace LaPrade, SAs [REDACTED] and Alexander P. LeGrand contacted Judge John L. Coffey in his offices, 401 Milwaukee County Building. This contact was made at the specific request of Judge Coffey to ASAC LaPrade.

Judge Coffey advised that two detectives who are working for the John Doe Grand Jury, which is under his direction, had been in contact with Attorney [REDACTED] and had some information which would be of value, and also that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] desired an Agent to immediately contact him at telephone [REDACTED] to supply this information. The information concerning [REDACTED] was subsequently supplied telephonically to ASAC LaPrade, who made the telephonic contact with [REDACTED]

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Judge Coffey then called in two detectives of the Milwaukee Police Department who are working on the John Doe investigation, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who supplied the following information:

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[REDACTED] stated that they were currently investigating the activities of [REDACTED] who is [REDACTED] of FRANK BALISTRIERI. [REDACTED] has done some legal work for FRANK BALISTRIERI. [REDACTED] has been in contact with [REDACTED] in an effort to obtain information on [REDACTED] subsequently intending to concentrate their investigation on BALISTRIERI's operation. They desired this be known by the FBI, so their contacts with these individuals will not be misconstrued.

[REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] advised him that his client, WILLIAM COVELLI, whom he has been representing in an Internal Revenue case, has been followed around the Kenosha area and in Milwaukee, Wis. by an automobile bearing 1963 Wisconsin license number Q9131, which he thinks might be connected with the individuals

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APL:mcs
(2)

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6-11-63

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who abducted COVELLI in Kenosha, Wis. on 6-6-63. [] stated he checked the registration data with Motor Vehicle Dept. in Madison, Wis. and found that it was listed to a JAMES HART, Fern, Wis.

[] stated that shortly thereafter he was advised by an officer of the Milwaukee Police Dept. that a Special Agent [] had inquired as to who was making the license check and requested [] to telephone Agent [] to advise him of the reason therefor. [] requested Agents to supply this information to SA []

[] stated that [] believed that the FBI was not putting forth sufficient effort to solve this case, and he was undoubtedly trying to embarrass the FBI by use of this license number, which he presumed to belong to the FBI. He suggested that the license number ought to be destroyed. [] was advised that we were destroying no license numbers, but no statement was made regarding the ownership of the license.

[] stated that [] believed that if the FBI or some police agency were responsible for the kidnapping of COVELLI, he could make such a sizeable recovery in a civil suit for damages that he would "make Lake County into a swimming pool and retire the rest of his life." [] stated "they should have left one go by his ear."

These men were advised with respect to [] statement, that he did not think the FBI was investigating this case too hard, that we were most interested in solving this case because it involved an impersonation of an FBI Agent.

[] advised that they had recently arrested [] Milwaukee PD number [] who had in her possession a notebook containing the telephone numbers of numerous individuals, and also the names of four men connected with Local 200 of the Teamsters Union, with a notation "referred by []". The names of these men, with descriptive data taken from the notebook, were as follows:

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[] -- 5 Ft. 2 In.
[] 6 Ft., 190 lbs.
[] -- 5 Ft. 4 In., 145 lbs.
[] -- 6 Ft., 200 lbs.

Memo to SAC (162-49)
6-11-63

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The notebook itself was not seen by Agents, but the above data was taken from the typewritten sheet in the investigator's file on [redacted]

[redacted] made available for review a memorandum prepared by him and addressed to Judge Coffey dated 6-7-63.

This memorandum recited that at 4:30 A.M. on that date, he had received a call from [redacted] who said a client of his had been abducted and beaten in Kenosha by abductors who were supposed to be FBI Agents. [redacted] informed [redacted] that he was meeting [redacted] of the FBI immediately thereafter and an agreement was reached whereby [redacted] was to meet [redacted] at 5:30 A.M. on that date at the restaurant located at No. 12th St. and W. State Street. [redacted] appeared at the restaurant, where he was notified telephonically by [redacted] that the FBI did not want him along, but that [redacted] was going to accompany the FBI to Kenosha and desired that his whereabouts be known to [redacted] in case anything happened to him.

[redacted] also made available his memorandum to Judge Coffey dated 6-11-63, which summarized developments arising out of his contact with Attorney [redacted] at the latter's residence, [redacted] Milwaukee, on 6-10-63, beginning about 6:15 P.M. Present at this gathering in addition to Attorney [redacted] and [redacted] were [redacted] and [redacted]

There was a discussion of WILLIAM COVELLI and his abduction on 6-6-63. [redacted] allegedly expressed the opinion that it was not the hoodlum element which abducted COVELLI, since there was no roughing up and no money taken, and the sole purpose of the abductors appeared to be to scare COVELLI into discussing the BIERNAT case.

[redacted] questioned [redacted] concerning the length of his acquaintance with COVELLI and by whom he was introduced to COVELLI. After some evaluation, [redacted] allegedly said that he had known COVELLI for five months, but never did disclose through whom he was introduced to COVELLI. It was [redacted] speculation that the intermediary was FRANK BALISTRIERI. [redacted] related to [redacted] that WILLIAM COVELLI came to his office about six weeks ago to discuss a tax case, and upon his arrival at [redacted] office, COVELLI claimed he had been tailed from Kenosha to Milwaukee, and that the men tailing him were then in the lobby of the building. At this point, [redacted] left Attorney [redacted] office to go

Memo to SAC (162-49)
6-11-63

downstairs and pick up some books from COVELLI's car, at which time she observed some men in the building lobby. (The memorandum did not incorporate the names or any descriptive data concerning the men allegedly observed by [redacted])

[redacted] said that on this occasion, COVELLI had obtained the registration number of the car, which followed him from Kenosha, as Q9131, which [redacted] had determined to be issued to one JAMES HART, Fern, Wis.

The memorandum set forth that [redacted] requested [redacted] to give [redacted] a "fair shake" when she comes up for trial. [redacted] acknowledged that [redacted] and in [redacted] opinion she is receiving too much notoriety. The memorandum contained the opinion of [redacted] that [redacted] seems to have an undue interest in this girl.

Memorandum also contained a statement that [redacted] is not satisfied with the way the FBI has handled the COVELLI abduction matter. [redacted] expressed the opinion that [redacted] is attempting to discredit the FBI and wants to prove that the FBI was involved in the COVELLI abduction or, in the absence of such proof, create that impression.

DECODED COPY

☒ **Radio**☐ **Teletype**

TO: SAC, MILWAUKEE
FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI 122220

URGENT
6/12/63

WILLIAM COVELLI, HOODLUM ACTIVITIES, MILWAUKEE DIVISION.

FOR YOUR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AT THIS TIME, THE DEPARTMENT TODAY ADVISED THAT WALTER BARNES OF THE ORGANIZED CRIME SECTION WILL BE IN MILWAUKEE ON MONDAY, JUNE 17, 1963, TO ASSIST USA IN CONVENING A GRAND JURY, PROBABLY DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY, 1963. THIS GRAND JURY WILL INQUIRE INTO THE MURDER OF ANTHONY J. BIERNAT AND INTO THE IMPERSONATION OF FBI AGENTS IN THE ALLEGED COVELLI ABDUCTION. THE CONVENING OF THIS GRAND JURY SHOULD BE OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE TO YOUR OFFICE IN YOUR INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE THE IDENTITIES OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO ALLEGEDLY ABDUCTED COVELLI.

IMMEDIATELY ASSEMBLE A LIST OF HOODLUMS WHO SHOULD BE BROUGHT BEFORE THIS GRAND JURY TOGETHER WITH PERTINENT INFORMATION AS TO WHAT EACH OF THESE INDIVIDUALS CAN BE EXPECTED TO TESTIFY TO. ANY INFORMATION TENDING TO ESTABLISH POSSIBILITY OF VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW ON THE PART OF ANY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS SHOULD BE ASSEMBLED IN APPROPRIATE FORM FOR THE USE OF THE DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY. SIMILAR REQUESTS BEING MADE BY DEPARTMENT OF OTHER FEDERAL INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO DEVELOPING ANY INFORMATION INDICATING

[REDACTED] HAS [REDACTED]

THE DEPARTMENT HAS

ADVISED THAT TO ASSIST YOU IN YOUR INTERVIEWS DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

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*1. Pindle
advised
4/12/63
①*

162-49-123

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MILWAUKEE	

Hallman

(Same entered)

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☐ Radio

(PAGE TWO)

☐ Teletype

BARNES WILL MAKE AVAILABLE TO YOU GRAND JURY SUBPOENAS FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO REFUSE TO COOPERATE WITH YOU IN YOUR INQUIRIES OR WHO APPEAR TO BE IN THE POSSESSION OF INFORMATION PERTINENT TO THE GRAND JURY INQUIRY.

PRESS ALL ASPECTS OF YOUR INVESTIGATION. KEEP BUREAU ADVISED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS BY DAILY RADIOGRAM.

JCT
(2)

TOR: 6:52PM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (162-49)

DATE: June 13, 1963

FROM : ASAC

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA
IGA

At 6:30 P.M., 6-12-63, I received phone call from a reporter by the name of [redacted] (PH) of the Sentinel. He stated that he would like some information concerning license Q9131. He was advised that the official position of this office is "no comment" concerning the progress in our investigation in the COVELLI matter.

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This reporter stated that a car with the above license number had followed COVELLI just a few days prior to his abduction and had been seen in the area of the COVELLI residence. He indicated that [redacted] is certain that this automobile is significant in connection with COVELLI's abduction, and that the Kenosha Police Department is going to get this license number registrant identified. This reporter claimed that UP had already prepared a story concerning the license number, and he insisted that either the FBI officially admit or deny that this license number was utilized by an FBI car. The position of the office about not commenting on developments in the COVELLI investigation was reiterated and, although the reporter was obnoxiously persistent, the conversation was ended this way.

At approximately 10:00 P.M., [redacted] contacted the office and requested that I get in touch with him as he had some information which he considered to be of value. [redacted] that he wanted to supply some information to me.

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He was contacted at [redacted] Wis., telephone [redacted] [redacted] stated that he had been contacted by [redacted]

[redacted]

② - 162-49

1 - [redacted]

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Memo to SAC
6-13-63
162-49

At 12:15 A.M. on 6-13-63, SAs REED and [] informed me of an incident involving the Kenosha Police Department having challenged them while in Kenosha, and having requested them to come to their police department for further identification. These Agents are supplying a separate memorandum concerning this.

A conference was held with Agents who have been engaged interviewing hoodlums, and these Agents were informed of the Bureau teletype concerning the convening of a Grand Jury. It was emphasized at the conference that this was strictly confidential information and should be maintained this way. There was reviewed with the Agents the instructions contained in the teletype in preparing material for the Grand Jury. The necessity for being most circumspect in dealings with the Kenosha Police Department and in refraining from becoming involved in making remarks concerning the license Q9131, were reiterated. All Agents were instructed to continue to press interviews with hoodlums in order that this could be completed as soon as possible.

This is being supplied for information for the file.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (162-49)

DATE: 6/13/63

FROM : SA WILLIAM J. HIGGINS, (P)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.
IGA

At Kenosha, Wisconsin

On 6/13/63, the writer personally contacted [redacted] and [redacted] Detective Bureau, Police Department, City of Kenosha, relative to the interview conducted by the second shift officers of that department on the evening of 6/12/63, pertaining to Special Agents CARLYLE N. REED and [redacted] at Kenosha. [redacted] and [redacted] were advised of the fact that these Agents had been stopped while in the vicinity of the COVELLI residence by officers of the Police Department and despite the fact that proper identification was made as Agents of the FBI, they were requested to proceed to the Police Department to assure that their identification was in order.

[redacted] and [redacted] both advised that they knew nothing whatever of this incident, except that [redacted] stated at approximately 8 AM on 6/13/63, he was advised briefly in oral fashion that two Agents had been in the evening before and had talked to officers of the department at that time after having been in the area of the COVELLI residence.

Both [redacted] and [redacted] were advised by SA HIGGINS that the FBI has never ceased its primary objectives in the suitable and appropriate investigation to solve the BIERNAT kidnaping, and that we haven't permitted any of these distracting incidents to affect and deter us from these objectives; that the FBI is personally shocked, as well as its Agent HIGGINS, that the Police Department of the City of Kenosha, which had specifically invited the FBI to come in and assist them in the BIERNAT investigation, would fall into the trap of being lured by innuendoes and apparent false leads as to actually be in a position possibly of impeding the investigation.

Both officers were also specifically advised that the FBI does not inform any department or anyone of its investigations or

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MI 162-49

its investigators or their being in or not being in a specific area, and will continue to follow such policy. They were advised further it is a shock to think that officers of the department with the experience of those involved last night wouldn't have recognized proper credentials of the FBI and acknowledge so when the identification was made on the scene.

[redacted] stated that he agreed completely with the position taken by the FBI and that he will personally attend to the matter with respect to the personnel involved on the second shift to see that incidents of this type will not occur again. As the top responsible officer of the department he extended his apologies in that regard.

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[redacted] likewise concurred in the same connection and stated that he had not been advised or brought into the matter at all and that he was embarrassed and sorry that the incident had occurred as it did.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (162-49)

FROM : SA CARLYLE N. REED and
SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
AR

DATE: 6-13-63

At approximately 9:45 P.M., 6-12-63 SA REED and [REDACTED] drove past the subject's residence on 36th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin, for the purpose of seeing if Mrs. COVELLI, subject's wife, was home. These two agents had attempted to contact Mrs. COVELLI in the afternoon of the same day, and there was no one home.

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When driving past the COVELLI home on the night of 6-12-63 the agents noted that the lights were out and there was no automobile at the house, so the agents made no attempt to go to the house at that time.

A Kenosha PD patrol car was observed following the Bureau car, which the agents were driving, at a point approximately two blocks from the COVELLI residence. After the agents passed the COVELLI home and gone about two blocks away from there, they were stopped by night patrolman [REDACTED] of the Kenosha PD who was in the patrol car which was following the Bureau agents.

[REDACTED] asked for identification of agents by credentials and badges, which were displayed to [REDACTED] was courteous; however, he explained that because of the reported abduction of COVELLI by Bureau agents, it was necessary to establish beyond doubt, that both agents were, in fact, the individuals identified on their credentials.

[REDACTED] asked the agents to proceed to the PD for further clarification of the matter, and which the agents were agreeable to do.

(3)
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cef

162-49-126

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ORTS

MI 162-49

Upon arriving at the Kenosha PD, it was noted that not only [] patrol car drove in but two other patrol cars were apparently covering the Bureau Agents in their car. Agent [], who has worked at Kenosha on a number of occasions in the past few weeks, was immediately recognized by one of the officers on duty on the first floor of the PD, which satisfied patrolman [] as to the true identity of the agents.

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At this point, patrolman [] stated that he had been requested to have agents come up to the Detective Bureau which agents gladly did, and there were met by []

Also present were patrolman [] another uniform Kenosha PD officer, a detective and a deputy from the Kenosha County SO.

[] and [] let it be known to the agents that they and [] were "teed off" at the FBI because of the way the FBI was coming into Kenosha and doing investigations without letting the PD know and in this instance, working on instant case in which the Kenosha PD has an abduction case to solve.

These two spokesmen also pointed out that starting on the night of 6-11-63 police protection has been afforded to Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM COVELLI at their request. This protection being to the extent that the night Kenosha PD patrol car checks by the COVELLI home every 15 minutes since the COVELLI's are afraid for their lives; further, he stated if COVELLI should see a car following him, and the police knew it was an FBI car, there would be no worry and COVELLI would be relieved of any fear for his life. They also pointed out that they have a very small night force. The Detective Division, for example, have only two detectives on the night shift and the only checking of suspicious cars driving in front of the COVELLI home has been in this instance, where it was an FBI car.

They said that they wanted to know the identification of FBI cars in the area which would relieve their policemen in the checking and periodic surveillance of the COVELLI home. They also complained that in checking out any cars through the Motor Vehicle Department in Madison, they have

MI 162-49

run into a problem and have been trying for a month to identify a Wisconsin license, Q9131, without success. They said that if this is an FBI car, they would like to know about it so that they could eliminate that car from any further consideration with respect to the COVELLI abduction matter.

They pointed out that they are getting the "heat" from the higher officials in their department to get the answers, such as the identities of any questioned vehicles, and again, particularly, license Q9131. They made a considerable point of matter of cooperation between the FBI and their department, and that they wanted to cooperate. They were advised by the agents that the matter would be checked out and if there was anything further to be done concerning their complaints, they would be appropriately contacted.

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It should be noted that they were not-advised of the identity of Wisconsin license Q9131, regarding check with the PD, when agents have occasion to come into Kenosha on investigation. It was pointed out to them that there are occasions when we are conducting investigations that we come because of the circumstances, check in with them in advance of working in their city.

On the morning of 6-13-63 RA WILLIAM J. HIGGINS, JR at Kenosha, Wisconsin, was notified of the foregoing information, and he stated he would be contacting [redacted] Kenosha PD, today, to straighten out this matter.

This matter was brought to the attention of ASAC J. WALLACE LA PRADE, late on the night of 6-12-63 upon return of agents REED and [redacted] to Milwaukee.

ADDENDUM

On the morning of 6-13-63 RA HIGGINS advised SA REED that he had contacted [redacted] Kenosha PD, and resolved this matter with him. SA HIGGINS pointed out that there was a conflict between the day force and night force at the PD,

MI 162-49

He stated that these shifts were working independent of each other. Agent HIGGINS gave no information relative to Wisconsin license Q9131.

F B I

Date: 6/14/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)
FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) (P) 141602
WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA., IGA. OO MILWAUKEE
RE MI RAD JUNE THIRTEEN INSTANT.

THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL HOODLUMS INTERVIEWED JUNE THIRTEEN
AT MILWAUKEE AND STATED THAT THEY KNEW NOTHING OF ABDUCTION OF
COVELLI AND ~~ACCOUNTED FOR~~ ^{SUPPLIED INFO RE} WHEREABOUTS NIGHT OF ABDUCTION: SAME
CLAIMED THEY DO NOT KNOW COVELLI EXCEPT WHERE NOTED BELOW:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CARLO DI MAGGIO, [REDACTED] SAM CEFALU,
[REDACTED] WHO KNOWS COVELLI SLIGHTLY, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] REFUSED INTERVIEW AND TOLD AGENTS TO SEE
HIS ATTORNEY.

[REDACTED] STATED THAT HE FIGURED SOME ORGANIZATION DID
THIS AND FOR HIS OWN SAFETY HE WOULD NOT TELL THE FBI IF HE KNEW.

THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL HOODLUMS IN KENOSHA WERE INTERVIEWED
JUNE THIRTEEN INSTANT BUT DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF COVEELI'S
ABDUCTION: DOMINIC PRINCIPE WAS LOCATED AFTER INQUIRY AT KENOSHA
HOME ^{and} AT LAKE ZURICH ^{ILL} PIZZARIA, ADVISED AGENTS HE FIRST HEARD OF
ABDUCTION JUNE TEN INSTANT AND HASN'T SEEN COVELLI SINCE ALLEGED

APL:RCT/LMP

(1) *Encl*Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in ChargeSent 1:44 P M Per WCP

162-49-127

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Date:

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(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE TWO

ABDUCTION. DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF ABDUCTION OR BIERNAT MURDER AND ACCOUNTED FOR HIS WHEREABOUTS.

ALBERT ALBANA, LOCATED THROUGH DANTE'S BAR AFTER HE REFUSED TO ANSWER DOORBELL AND TELEPHONE, WAS HOSTILE BUT ~~ACCOUNTED FOR~~ ^{SUPPLIED INFO RE} WHEREABOUTS ON NIGHT OF ABDUCTION AND DENIED KNOWLEDGE THEREOF.

[REDACTED] KENOSHA, WIS., ADDITIONAL WITNESS, SAID SHE HEARD SIREN AND SAW CAR WITH RED LIGHT ABOUT TEN THIRTY PM ON NIGHT OF ABDUCTION BUT COULD FURNISH NO DETAILS.

[REDACTED] PCI, STATED SHE OVERHEARD CONVERSATION BETWEEN TWO UNKNOWN ITALIANS IN KENOSHA TO EFFECT THAT [REDACTED]

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^{additional} NINETEEN MILWAUKEE AND KENOSHA ~~WAS~~ ^{HOODLUMS being} SCHEDULED FOR INTERVIEW ^{ed} TODAY. COVELLI WILL BE REQUESTED TO SIGN CONSENT TO TAKE POLYGRAPH TEST WITHOUT CONDITIONS ATTACHED, AS NO LETTER RECEIVED FROM HIS ATTORNEY, AS PROMISED. INVESTIGATION UNDER WAY INTO BACKGROUND OF [REDACTED] AND BUREAU BEING REQUESTED IN AIRTEL FOR PERMISSION TO INTERVIEW FOUR TEAMSTER OFFICIALS BELIEVED

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Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE THREE

POSSIBLY [REDACTED]

BASED ON INFORMATION DEVELOPED FROM BOOK FORMERLY UTILIZED BY
[REDACTED]b6
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ALL HOODLUMS INTERVIEWED TO DATE HAVE BEEN AGGRESSIVELY PRESSED ON BIERNAT MATTER AND COVELLI ABDUCTION STORY. THIS ACTION IS CERTAINLY HAVING AN EFFECT OF CAUSING CONSIDERABLE CONCERN ^{as indicated in interviews with} BY HOODLUMS AS TO WHETHER FBI INVESTIGATION IS GETTING WIDE SPREAD INTO ALL OF THEIR ILLICIT OPERATIONS.

MI CONTINUING TO ^{PURSUE} ~~PRESS~~ ALL ASPECTS. COMPREHENSIVE AIRTEL WITH DETAILS OF RESULTS TO DATE BEING SUBMITTED JUNE FIFTEEN NEXT.

END ACK PLS

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date JUNE 14, 1963

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

141825

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, IGA, OO MI.

[REDACTED] WHO HAS BEEN UNAVAILABLE SINCE MONDAY, ADVISED TODAY THAT IN CONVERSATION WITH FRANCIS STELLOH AND [REDACTED] BOTH LOCAL HOODLUMS, THAT THEY WERE OF THE OPINION ~~THAT~~ COVELLI PERPETRATED THIS ABDUCTION HIMSELF. HE STATED THEY DONT BELIEVE THE FBI DID THIS. INFORMANT ADVISED THAT THEY THINK THAT COVELLI SET UP THIS ABDUCTION TO TAKE THE PRESSURE OFF HIM. HE STATED THAT COVELLI MAY HAVE RECEIVED SOME INFORMATION THAT THE FBI WAS GETTING CLOSE TO SOLVING THE BIERNAT CASE AND THAT HE WAS ABOUT TO BE QUESTIONED AGAIN ABOUT THIS. INFORMANT STATED THAT BY SETTING UP THE ABDUCTION, COVELLI MIGHT GAIN SOME SYMPATHY AS WELL AS TAKE THE PRESSURE OFF HIM.

INFORMANT STATES THAT THE HOODLUM ELEMENT IS GETTING QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT ALL OF THEM BEING REINTERVIEWED BY THE FBI AGAIN. HE STATED THAT THEY HAD HOPED THE PRESSURE WOULD SOON LET UP REGARDING THE BIERNAT CASE SO THEY COULD AGAIN START TO OPERATE IN THEIR OLD WAYS, BUT THAT THIS ABDUCTION HAD OPENED UP THAT QUOTE OLD WOUND UNQUOTE AND THEY DONT LIKE IT. HE STATED THAT IF COVELLI DID PERPETRATE THIS ABDUCTION HIMSELF, HE OPINED THAT

PHS:mcs
(1)Approved: PHS/1
Special Agent in ChargeSent 2:52 P M Per W

162-49-128

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F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE TWO

THE SYNDICATE MIGHT TAKE SOME ACTION AGAINST HIM.

WITH REGARD TO COVELLIS ATTORNEY, [REDACTED] INFORMANT
STATED THAT [REDACTED] IS AN EGOTIST AND LOVES PUBLICITY. FURTHER,
HE WOULDNT BE SURPRISED IF [REDACTED] HAD A HAND IN SETTING UP THIS
ABDUCTION FOR HIS CLIENT TO EMBARRASS THE FBI.

[REDACTED] CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED THAT
WHILE AT [REDACTED]
OVERHEARD [REDACTED]

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END ACK PLS

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Milwaukee [redacted]

DATE: 5/24/63

FROM : SA JOEY H. GASEAWAY

☒ CI

☐ SI

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☐ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [redacted]

Dates of Contact		5/14/63
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka AR	92-257	HOLTZMAN
JOEY CHARLES RIZZO, aka AR	92-164	[redacted]
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka IGA	162-49	[redacted]
IGA	162-1	[redacted]
CIP	92-145	THOMPSON
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
<p>Informant was shown a picture of a DAVE SCHEFT and was questioned as to whether or not SCHEFT ever laid off bets with RIZZO. Informant stated that he definitely did not know this individual and, hence, know nothing concerning his activities.</p> <p>In regards to a [redacted] of Racine, informant stated that [redacted] has been a [redacted] for RIZZO at his gambling joint in Kenosha, Wisconsin, for years. He stated that up until a short time ago [redacted] which he believes [redacted] for RIZZO [redacted]</p> <p>[redacted] He stated that RIZZO and COVELLI, as far as he knows, are not operating their crap game in Kenosha at the present time, but both of them have a book going—one in Kenosha and one in Racine. He said that RIZZO and COVELLI have someone operating these books for them and they do not handle the operation themselves.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating	Coverage
	Excellent	Gambling
Personal Data		

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1-92-257
JHG:bs
(6)

1-92-164
1-92-145

1-92-49
1-162-1

162-49-129

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 28 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

[redacted]

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HI [REDACTED]

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Informant stated that on Saturday, May 4, JOHN RIZZO and
BILL COFFELY along with two individuals unknown to informant,
were at [REDACTED] Ho
said that RIZZO has [REDACTED]

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Milwaukee [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/12/63

b7D

FROM : SA JOHN H. GASSAWAY

☒ CI

☐ SI

☐ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Dates of Contact		5/20/63
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
JOHN CHARLES RIZZO, aka AR	92-164	[REDACTED]
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka	162-49	
IGA	162-1	
CIP	92-145 THOMPSON	
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
<p>Informant stated that JOHNNY RIZZO and WILLIAM COVELLI have their books going in Racine and Kenosha, Wisc., but definitely had no crap game going in Kenosha on Friday night, May 17, 1963. He said that RIZZO and COVELLI go to the race tracks in Chicago quite often, [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating	Coverage
	Excellent	Gambling
Personal Data		

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1-162-49 1-92-164 1-92-145
JHG:bs 1-162-1
(5)

162-49-130

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED 3	FILED 8
JUN 12 1963	
[REDACTED]	WKEE

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SAC, MILWAUKEE (92-257)

6/12/63

SA [REDACTED]

JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka
AR

[REDACTED] was telephonically recontacted by SA [REDACTED] on 5/16/63 at which time he advised that the individual who allegedly stayed with ANTHONY BIERMAT while his wife spent evenings out was [REDACTED] in Kenosha. [REDACTED] stated he had erroneously given [REDACTED] previously. [REDACTED] advised that he had contacted WEISER COVELLI the day previous at Grcco's Restaurant in Kenosha and COVELLI stated "he had nothing to say to those guys". [REDACTED] stated that COVELLI was referring to the FBI. COVELLI further told [REDACTED] that, "They know I'm gambling, what else can I tell them." COVELLI also told [REDACTED] that his lawyer has told him that he did not have to talk to anyone and he refuses to be harassed any further. COVELLI believes that the FBI is causing him much difficulty and has caused him to lose six to eight accounts in his vending machine business.

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1 - 92-257
1 - 92-318
1 - 162-49

FM/kaj
(3)

162-49-131

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED 8	FILE 8
JUN 14 1963	

[REDACTED] 783

F B I

Date: 6/13/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)
FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) P 131622
WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA. IGA. OO: MILWAUKEE.
RAD
RE BUREAU ~~RAD~~ JUNE TWELVE LAST.

THE FOLLOWING ASSOCIATES OF WILLIAM COVELLI INTERVIEWED
WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS AT KENOSHA, WISC., JUNE TWELVE LAST: FRANK
BARCA, 5227 - 13TH AVE.; PETER BARCA, 1230 SHERIDAN RD.; AL ALBANA,
3029 - 52ND ST.; [REDACTED]

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THE FOLLOWING ASSOCIATES OF THE MURDERED ANTHONY J. BIERNAT
INTERVIEWED AND ACCOUNTED FOR WHEREABOUTS ON NIGHT OF ABDUCTION: [REDACTED]

ALL KENOSHA.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM COVELLI ON JUNE TWELVE LAST ADVISED
THAT ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE FIVE, THE NIGHT BEFORE ALLEGED ABDUCTION THEY
THOUGHT A BLUE PLYMOUTH AUTOMOBILE WITH ILL. LICENSE PLATES

APL:bs
(1) *[Signature]*Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 12:43 P M Per WCP

162-49-132

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE TWO

CONTAINING TWO MEN HAD FOLLOWED THEM.

[REDACTED] ADVISED HER [REDACTED] HAD LEFT KENOSHA, WISC., FOR LAKE ZURICH, ILL., ABOUT TEN THIRTY PM, JUNE SIX LAST, FOLLOWING THE GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL OF [REDACTED] EFFORTS IMMEDIATELY MADE TO CONTACT PRINCIPE AT LAKE ZURICH NEGATIVE, BUT PRINCIPE TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED MILWAUKEE OFFICE TODAY WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW. PRINCIPE IS SUSPECT IN BIERNAT MURDER. EFFORTS BEING MADE TO INTERVIEW TWENTYSEVEN HOODLUMS IN MILWAUKEE, WISC., TODAY.

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Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

5/25/63

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (92-5912)

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (92-164)

JOHN CHARLES RIZZO, aka
AR

Re Milwaukee airtel to Bureau, 5/17/63

WEEKLY SUMMARY AIRTEL

[redacted] who has been described by various sources, including informants, as [redacted] at WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI's and JOHN RIZZO's game, which has operated in Kenosha, Wis. for some time, was interviewed at Racine, Wisconsin on 5/17/63 by Bureau agents. [redacted] admitted knowing both COVELLI and RIZZO and stated he was [redacted] at COVELLI's and RIZZO's place. [redacted] admitted there might have been some small, friendly gambling and stated further that he knew nothing concerning the abduction and murder of ANTHONY DIERNAT, which occurred 1/7/63. [redacted] furnished little or no information of genuine value.

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[redacted] on 5/20/63 advised that RIZZO and COVELLI had definitely not re-opened their large gambling at Kenosha, Wis.

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[redacted] (protect) [redacted] [redacted] Kenosha, and who is acquainted with numerous gamblers and hoodlums, advised SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] on 5/22/63 that there is no organized gambling at the present time at Kenosha, but only small games and that WILLIAM COVELLI and JOHN RIZZO are definitely not now running or backing any game. RIZZO, who resides in Racine County, has been conspicuous by his absence from the Kenosha, Wis. area in recent days and the fact that there is no organized gambling is due to the "heat" which has followed the abduction and murder of ANTHONY DIERNAT, which occurred on

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3 - Bureau (AM)
2 - Milwaukee (92-164)
(162-49)

EFF:ah
(5)

162-49-133

4 D
HI 92-164

January 7, 1963.

On 5/23/63, [redacted] and [redacted] advised that [redacted] in still [redacted] at [redacted] [redacted] located on [redacted] Racine, Wisconsin. On occasion of recent contact with [redacted] who is known personally to both [redacted] mentioned that he looked upon his job as [redacted] non-[redacted] as being temporary and that he would probably make a change around July 1, 1963.

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Spot checks made of the residence of JOHN CHARLES RIZZO, Racine County, by detectives of the Special Detail, Racine P.D. and Bureau agents have failed to disclose the present of any cars or individuals who are currently known to be members or associates with "The Outfit" in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

June 10, 1963

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL - REGISTERED

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA
IGA
OO- MI

Re Milwaukee teletypes to Bureau 6-3-63, wherein there is reported an allegation by WILLIAM COVELLI that two men representing themselves as being FBI Agents, abducted him on the evening of 6-6-63.

At the time of this alleged happening, two Agents only were on duty in the Kenosha, Wis. area. They were WILLIAM J. HIGGINS, JR. and [redacted] both of whom have signed affidavits categorically denying any participation in the actions alleged by COVELLI, and describing their activities on the evening of 6-6-63.

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On 6-7-63, [redacted] an attorney at Milwaukee, Wis., who was acting on behalf of WILLIAM COVELLI, advised that FRANK BALISTRIERI, also a client of his, alleged that about five days previously, BALISTRIERI approached an automobile he believed was surveilling him, grabbed the occupant by the front of his shirt, cocked his fist and requested identification. According to [redacted] the occupant told BALISTRIERI, "I am a policeman with the FBI." BALISTRIERI left this man alone, after obtaining his name as being KNICKREHM.

Enclosed herewith is an affidavit of SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM denying this event occurred.

Enclosures to Bureau -- Original and 1 copy of each of three affidavits aforementioned.

3 - Bureau (Air Mail - Registered) (Enc. 6) (162-777)

1 - MI 162-49

JWL:mcs

(4)

Just

162-49-134

Date June 12, 1963

[redacted] Kansasville, occupant of [redacted]
[redacted] from the abandoned farmhouse
where ANTHONY BIERNAT was found, stated he was coming home
at 1:00 or 1:05 a.m. Wednesday or Thursday when he noticed
two cars heading out of the area on the dirt road to Route 75.

He said he was certain as to the time because he works at
[redacted] in Kenosha and gets out of work at 12:30 a.m.
and that it takes him exactly one half hour to get home from
Kenosha. He said that in this particular instance he was about
a quarter of a mile from the turn where the abandoned farmhouse
is and he noticed a car coming by its headlights over a rise in
the dirt road. He said that he noticed that as he went by he
was fairly certain it had only one occupant, the driver, that
he estimated it to be a 1957 Ford two door light in color and
proceeding at a normal pace although because of the dirt road
it was kicking up a lot of dust.

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About an eighth of a mile behind was another car and from
its speed he gained the impression it was attempting to catch
up with the first.

This car he described as a light colored Cadillac four door
and in this instance also thought it was only occupied by a
driver. The second car he felt was a Cadillac because it
appeared to be a very big car, bigger than the first and had
noticeable fins in the rear that a Cadillac of several years
ago had. He said the size made him think of a Cadillac though
it could possibly have been a Plymouth. He said, however, he
owns a 1956 Plymouth and his brother has a 1957 Plymouth with
large fins and this car would not seem to be of that make.

He said that in neither instance did he see the number plate.
He repeated that he cannot be certain of which of the two
nights this incident occurred. He said he had not noticed
any unusual activity of late in the immediate area of the
abandoned farmhouse.

On 6/10/63 at Kansasville, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAS/imp 6/11/63

162-49-135

6/15/63

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: Director, FBI (162-777)
SAC, Chicago (162-277)

From: SAC, Milwaukee (162-49) P

Subject: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA

OO: Milwaukee

Re Milwaukee airtel to Bureau and Chicago, 6/10/63.

The following is comprehensive account of all investigation conducted concerning the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI since submission of reairtel. Also included is information concerning Attorney [redacted] and conditions in the Kenosha, Wisconsin, Police Department.

NEIGHBORHOODS AND ADDITIONAL WITNESSES

Neighborhoods at Point Where
Covelli was Released by Alleged
Abductors, 60th Street and 60th Ave.,
Kenosha, Wisconsin

The following persons were interviewed with negative results on 6/7/63 by SA [redacted] All stated that they were asleep between 12:01 AM and 3:00 AM on 6/7/63 and were not awakened or otherwise disturbed by any unusual occurrences in the area:

3 Bureau (AM) (SB) (Encls. 2) (RM)
2 Chicago (Regular Mail) RM
2 Milwaukee
ECT:bs
(7)

1 CC TO WSA
7/12/63

162-49-136

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MI 182-49



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It will be recalled that COVELLI recovered his car on the parking lot of the County Garage located at 60th St. and 57th Ave. immediately after his release. The following persons in that area were interviewed with negative results on 6/7/63 by SA [redacted]. All stated that they were at their homes between 12:01 AM and 3 AM on 6/7/63 and were not aware of any unusual activity in the neighborhood:



On 6/7/63, [redacted], advised SA [redacted] that she was watching TV in a room overlooking the street until approximately two AM, but neither saw nor heard anything to attract her attention.

Additional Neighborhood at
36th Ave. and Roosevelt Road,
Kenosha

On 6/12/63, Mrs. WILLIAM COVELLI advised SAs [redacted] and ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND that [redacted] told her she had witnessed the arrest.

MI 162-49

On 6/12/63, SA [] and SA LEGRAND interviewed [] Kenosha, who advised that at 10:30 PM on Thursday, 6/6/63, she heard a siren outside but that she and her husband were already in bed, believed somebody was being arrested for a traffic violation and did not look out of their window.

On 6/12/63, [] was interviewed at [] and advised that she worked the night shift until 12:30 AM on 6/7/63 at this [] which is closed all night; that [] and did not witness any arrest or recall hearing any sirens.

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On 6/13/63, [], advised SA [] and SA [] that between 10 PM and 10:30 PM on 6/6/63 she heard a siren and went to the door of her porch and looked out. Several doors away she saw two cars, which she could not describe or identify. She heard at least two voices but could not make out the figures of any persons because of the dark. She heard two car doors slam. She saw a flashing red light on one car. She made no other observations.

Additional Neighborhood near
the Biernat Burial Site,
Kenosha County, Wisconsin

On 6/10/63, [] Kansasville, who lives on a farm near the abandoned farm house in which the body of ANTHONY J. BIERNAT was found, advised SAs [] and [] that he returns from work at about one AM. On Thursday or Friday, June 6 or 7, 1963, between 1 AM and 1:05 AM, he was on his way home when he observed two cars heading out of the area of the abandoned farm house on a dirt road and traveling in the direction of Hwy. 75.

NI 162-49

[] said he was certain of the time of the night because he leaves work at [] in Kenosha, Wisc., at 12:30 AM, and it takes him exactly one-half hour to get home from Kenosha. He was a quarter of a mile from the turn where the abandoned farm house in which BIERNAT's body had been found is located when he noticed a car coming. He noted that it had only one occupant, the driver, and believed it was a 1957 Ford, tudor, light in color, proceeding at a normal pace. An eighth of a mile behind this car was another car, and from its speed he gained the impression it was attempting to catch up with the first. He believed this second car to be a light colored Cadillac, fordor, which he believed to be occupied only by the driver. He thought the second car was a Cadillac because it was a very big car and had noticeable fins in the rear that a Cadillac of several years back possessed. The size made him think of a Cadillac, though it could possibly have been a Plymouth. He stated, however, he owns a 1956 Plymouth and his brother has a 1957 Plymouth with large fins, and the car did not seem to be of that make. He saw no license plates. He noticed no unusual activity of late in the immediate area of the abandoned farm house. His view of the cars which passed him on the road was obstructed by dust from the road.

Neighborhood at Greco's Restaurant,
2209 - 56th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin

On 6/8/63, [], advised SAs [] and ALBERT B. KNICKERH that he knew nothing of the abduction of COVELLI until eleven AM on 6/7/63 when he was so informed by his [] said that he hadn't observed any suspicious strangers or cars in the vicinity of the restaurant during the pertinent period and had no information concerning the alleged abductors. [] responded to direct questions but volunteered no information.

NI 162-49

Concerning his own whereabouts [redacted] said that on the evening of 6/6/63, he borrowed COVELLI's station wagon and drove around town with a friend named [redacted] of [redacted]. He estimated that they used the car between 8:30 PM and 10:30 PM. When they returned to the restaurant they found COVELLI waiting for him there. COVELLI left for home about ten minutes later.

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On 6/10/63, [redacted] advised SAs [redacted] and [redacted] that he knew nothing concerning the abduction of COVELLI.

MI 162-49

The following investigation at Kenosha, Wisconsin was conducted by SAs [redacted] on June 12, 1963:

[redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin was contacted at Greco's Restaurant, 2209 - 56th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin on the afternoon of June 12, 1963. [redacted] stated that he is [redacted] and that he is [redacted] of WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI with whom he [redacted] [redacted] stated that on the evening of June 6, 1963 he was [redacted] and that about 8:30 or 9:00 p.m. he took the Kenosha Vending Company's white 1962 Dodge station wagon and went to downtown Kenosha with a friend, [redacted] who was also at Greco's Restaurant that evening. [redacted] stated that when he left [redacted] WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI was playing pinocle with [redacted] which they did on many evenings. [redacted] stated that he and [redacted] made a tour of downtown Kenosha and then took a ride along the lake in the vicinity of Carthage College and returned to the restaurant at approximately 10:15 p.m. when he observed that COVELLI and [redacted] were still engaged in a card game. At approximately 10:30 p.m. [redacted] WEISER COVELLI announced that he was leaving for home and he departed in the company station wagon in which [redacted] had just returned shortly before. [redacted] stated that he then took the Volkswagen truck owned by the company and returned his friend [redacted] to his home and he also returned to his own residence at [redacted] arriving there at approximately 11:00 p.m. [redacted] stated that on the next morning at approximately 11:00 a.m. when he entered [redacted] he was told by [redacted] that COVELLI had been kidnaped and that he had not heard any information concerning the kidnaping prior to that time. He stated that he cannot

NI 162-49

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recall who was in the restaurant at the time that COVELLI left at approximately 10:30 p.m. other than to say that it was the usual factory crowd who habitually ate their evening meal at the restaurant before reporting to the various factories on the 11:00 p.m. shift. [] stated that he knows nothing about the COVELLI abduction in addition to what he had already related and that while COVELLI had told him some of the details concerning the abduction, he stated that he would rather not relate them but that COVELLI be contacted personally concerning the matter. [] stated that [] was home sleeping at the time and that he would in all probability return to the restaurant at approximately 5:00 p.m. that afternoon.

[] was located at his restaurant, [] at approximately 5:30 p.m. on June 12, 1963 by Agents [] and [] who appropriately identified themselves and he stated that he is the [] of WILLIAM COVELLI. [] stated that on the evening of June 6, 1963 his [] WILLIAM COVELLI, entered the restaurant at about 7:00 or 7:30 p.m., at which time [] took the keys to the white 1962 Dodge station wagon owned by Kenosha Vending Company and departed. [] stated that [] and he sat at a table in the Greco establishment and played cards almost continuously until about 10:30 p.m. at which time [] returned and COVELLI stated that he was going to leave for home. [] stated that he could not recall the names of any of the customers who might have been in the restaurant at that time but stated that it was the [] factory clientele. He stated however that he knows that [] was on duty that night and that she may be able to furnish some additional information. [] stated that he saw no one that he believed to be suspicious in the restaurant at that time. [] stated that he stayed in the restaurant until after closing and that while cleaning up the

MI 162-49

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restaurant he received a telephone call there at approximately 3:00 a.m. on the morning of June 7, 1963 from WEISER COVELLI, who sounded very upset and was crying. COVELLI told [] that he couldn't tell him exactly what happened but that he "had been picked up by the law." [] stated he recalls that COVELLI in his conversation indicated that someone had taken him out in the county in a car with a siren on it. [] stated that he told COVELLI to come to his restaurant and shortly thereafter COVELLI and his wife entered GRECO's restaurant, at which point [] advised him to call the police and his lawyer. COVELLI was so upset according to [] that he could not furnish any details and he, COVELLI, and his wife went home, however, at about 11:30 a.m. COVELLI and a tall attorney wearing glasses came into the restaurant and the attorney and COVELLI talked at some length as to what happened on the night of June 6, 1963. [] stated that he has no knowledge whatsoever as to who may have been responsible for the abduction of his [] and that he is unable to furnish any other information in connection with the matter.

[] was interviewed at Greco's Restaurant, 2209 - 56th Street, at approximately 8:00 p.m., June 12, 1963. [] stated that she has been employed as [] and that she was on duty on the evening of June 6, 1963. [] stated that while she was not scheduled to start until 11:00 p.m. she arrived at approximately 10:30 p.m. since her son-in-law was able to drive her to her place of employment. She stated that she recalls that upon her arrival there she observed WEISER COVELLI and [] engaged in a card game at a table in the restaurant but that a few minutes after she arrived COVELLI left the restaurant. [] stated that there was nothing unusual in his departure and that she observed no strange individuals in the restaurant and she

MI 162-49

felt sure that COVELLI was not being followed by anyone in the restaurant. She stated that she has no idea as to who may have been responsible for the abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI.

NI 162-49

Neighborhood at William Covelli's
Residence, 7827 - 36th Avenue,
Kenosha, Wisconsin

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]
and SA [redacted] on 6/14/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin:

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The individuals contacted were unable to furnish any information of a pertinent nature regarding any activity or occurrence on 6/6/63, the date on which WILLIAM COVELLI was alleged to have been abducted. Nothing unusual was observed on 6/5/63 by these individuals. A number of neighbors stated that the WILLIAM COVELLI kept much to themselves, did not mix socially in the neighborhood and remained aloof. No one had any idea as to the identities of individuals who would want to abduct WILLIAM COVELLI. Summary of information furnished is as follows:

[redacted] advised that sometime in May, 1963, perhaps five or six weeks ago, she saw on one occasion two automobiles parked in the general area [redacted]. The men had field glasses, and she described one of the automobiles as a light colored car, either cream or tan, and the other automobile as either black, partially black or a dark color. She thought that she had seen 3 or 4 men, and she believed that they were with some law enforcement agency.

[redacted] advised that sometime back in May, 1963, 4 to 6 weeks ago, that she had seen a dark automobile, possibly black, which might have had white or gold trim. She stated that the automobile was parked some distance down the block, and she observed two men sitting in the front seat of the automobile. She stated that she recalled that she had observed this automobile on only one occasion during the day, the day unrecalled and time unrecalled. She was unable to identify the make of automobile.

MI 162-49

[redacted] stated that she has very poor eyesight and is in need of glasses and, although she has glasses, does not usually wear them.

[redacted], stated that approximately two weeks ago, perhaps either Tuesday or Wednesday, which would be May 28 or 29, sometime in the morning, she observed a dark or a black automobile, which might have been an older car estimated as a 1946 to 1948 model. She stated that the automobile might have been a Chevrolet to the best of her recollection and that she had observed two men in the front seat of the automobile. She stated that a little later on in the morning, not recalling the specific hour, that the first automobile was joined by another car which she thought was a green automobile and to be an older model, make of which she could not determine. [redacted] stated that she is not familiar with the makes and models of the various automobiles. As she recalled, a heavy-set man in work clothes got out of the older green automobile and talked to the man in the dark or black car.

[redacted], advised that he had observed a light tan Ford, a 1956 to 1958 model, sometime during the week of June 3, 1963, and a little later on in the interview he thought the date perhaps might have been approximately May 29, 1963. He said that the automobile contained two men, that they were parked at the end of the street and in the lane leading to the Tirabassi Construction Co. [redacted] advised that he was unable to observe the license number and that he believed that he would have been unable to obtain said license number due to the distance and he thought the automobile was there either in the afternoon or early evening on this particular occasion.

[redacted], stated that she observed an automobile at the end of the street in the lane leading to the

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NI 152-49

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Tirabassi Construction Co., and she thought that it was perhaps approximately May 29, 1963. [redacted] advised that she was not sure of the color of the automobile but thought perhaps it might have been a darker car. She stated she did not take a good look at it as she did not want to be obvious and she is unable to identify automobiles by make or model. She further stated that she was unable to recall any license number or the number of people sitting in the car.

The following were unable to furnish any information at the time of interview:



MI 162-49

ASSOCIATES OF ANTHONY J. BIERMAT, DECEASED

On 6/12/63 [redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin, was located and interviewed by SAs [redacted] and RICHARD C. THOMPSON at the [redacted] Avenue, Kenosha. He said that on the night of 6/6/63 he was out with [redacted] until midnight and that [redacted] could verify this. He identified the latter as the [redacted] in Kenosha whose office telephone is [redacted]. [redacted] said that after midnight he went to bed, and he heard nothing of the COVELLI abduction until Monday morning 6/10/63 when he caught it on the local radio station.

[redacted] said that he had no information concerning the abduction but he had several theories. One was the whole story was a lie. Another was that COVELLI's own gang was checking him to see if he would squeal. He said that if this had been done by friends of BIERMAT, COVELLI would have been dropped in the grave and allowed to find his own way home rather than being driven back to town.

[redacted] stated that he thought it strange that COVELLI went back to Green's Restaurant after the abduction, that is, on the early morning of 6/7/63. He said he had no proof of this but he had heard it stated.

On 6/12/63 [redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin, advised SAs [redacted] and THOMPSON that he was at home on the night of 6/6/63 which statement was verified by his wife. [redacted] said that he didn't believe COVELLI had been kidnapped at all. He said that if he had, COVELLI would certainly have told everything that he knew. Then he added that he, of course, didn't know but what COVELLI had talked.

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[] said that he had no other theories about the abduction, but he knew that the gamblers in northern Illinois were angry with the Kenosha crowd because through the BIERNAT murder they had "put the heat" on gambling in northern Illinois and the gamblers there weren't making any money.

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[] said he had heard nothing further which would throw any light on the BIERNAT murder.

On 6/12/63 [] Kenosha, Wisconsin, advised SAs [] and THOMPSON that he was at Kelly's Bar, 4523-7th Avenue, Kenosha, on the night of 6/6/63 and remained there until after 2 a.m. the next morning. He said he was with JOHN KRAEMER, a retired man 70 years of age, who had since gone to Twin Lakes where his son owns a bake shop. [] said that [] the proprietor, would remember that he was there because he had a fish dinner. He said that [] starts preparing his fish for Friday on Thursday night and [] would remember his having been served.

[] also said that the gamblers in McHenry, Illinois, were angry with the Kenosha crowd for bringing so much official heat to the gambling scene. He said the BIERNAT murder caused this. [] said he had no information concerning the COVELLI abduction nor anything new concerning the BIERNAT murder.

On 6/12/63 [] Kenosha, Wisconsin, [] of ANTHONY BIERNAT, deceased, advised SAs [] and THOMPSON that on 6/6/63 he worked at the [] until 3:30 p.m. at which time he went home. He said that he probably went out to eat between 5 and 6 p.m. as this was his custom. He further stated that he then returned home and sat outside until about 10 p.m. when he went into the house to get ready for bed. For awhile he sat in the house with the lights out,

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looking out the front window. He saw a car stop and two girls got out and ran up his steps. One was [redacted]. The other was a girl called [redacted] who owned the car. [redacted] had been out to see some relatives and they had passed by the hospital on returning to town. [redacted] thought she saw the car of [redacted] at the hospital and she suspected that [redacted] was about to have her baby. She, therefore, hurried over to see [redacted] to tell him he was a grandfather. Inquiry disclosed, however, that this was all a false alarm. The girls stayed only a short time and then left and BIERNAT went to bed. He said he had no information about the COVELLI abduction but the men who worked with him at [redacted] said they thought it was a phony. He said he also had no new information concerning the murder of his [redacted]

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FRANK L. BARCA
2413-34th Avenue
Kenosha, Wisconsin

On 6/12/63 SA [redacted] and ALBERT G. MACDONALD attempted to locate FRANK L. BARCA at his place of business, the Advance Novelty Company, 5227-13th Avenue by placing calls and leaving word at his residence. He was located about 5 p.m. at his residence. He stated that he knew WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI and last fall COVELLI approached him about buying his jukebox route. COVELLI apparently wanted to buy the route as he had a vending machine route and wanted to add the jukebox business. BARCA stated he was willing to sell because he now has a regular job driving a truck for American Motors which pays him well but requires him to get up early in the morning and also means that if he has to service his jukebox route he has no free time. COVELLI asked him what price he wanted but he was unable to give an answer inasmuch as he wanted to figure out what the route was worth as he did not want to give away a business which he had built up over a 20-year period. COVELLI indicated that he should not expect top price. He was asked by COVELLI on numerous occasions about the price for the route but since he had never actually had time to figure it out he had not given COVELLI a price.

He stated that he did not know who had killed TONY BIERNAT on January 7, 1963 and had not heard any rumors as to the reason for the killing. He also stated that [redacted] still runs BIERNAT's route, and he has not been approached by anyone for his route and as far as he knows [redacted] has not been approached.

He also stated that he has no idea about who could be responsible for the alleged COVELLI abduction and it was ridiculous to state it was the responsibility of the FBI. This incident would indicate that it was an idea of a warped mind. However, it would not indicate who such a person might be.

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INTERVIEWS OF HOODLUMS AND HOODLUM CONTACTS

FRANK PETER BALISTRIERI
3043 North Shepard Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On 6/10/63, SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND and RICHARD C. THOMPSON attempted several times to locate BALISTRIERI at his residence. They identified themselves and requested that BALISTRIERI contact them through the Milwaukee Office immediately. Checks were also made at Gallagher's Restaurant and the Downtowner, which are enterprises of BALISTRIERI, with negative results.

In midafternoon on 6/10/63, the above Agents observed BALISTRIERI's car in a residential area near his home; but, as the Agents were traveling in the opposite direction, BALISTRIERI's car disappeared before contact could be made. At about 4:40 PM on 6/10/63, BALISTRIERI called the Milwaukee Office and said he would be available for interview on some neutral ground of the Agents' choosing at half-past five.

BALISTRIERI was interviewed by SAs LE GRAND and THOMPSON at 5:30 PM. He was first asked for specific information relative to an allegation made by Attorney [redacted] had said that on a recent night BALISTRIERI had grasped an Agent on surveillance by the shirt and had cocked his fist and demanded identification. Furthermore, [redacted] said that he thought no Federal charge could have been brought against BALISTRIERI for assault of a Federal officer if he had struck an Agent who refused to identify himself. BALISTRIERI said he recalled the incident and related the following:

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One night, less than three weeks ago, he observed that he was being followed by a car, and he stopped to find out about it. He stopped approximately in front of Maniaci's Bar and Restaurant, 1902 E. North Ave., where he chanced to observe a friend, WALTER BROCCA, in a truck. He asked BROCCA if he knew who was following him and BROCCA at first said they were police. BALISTRERI then approached the surveillance car and asked the driver for his badge number, which the driver did not give nor did he identify himself. Then, BROCCA told BALISTRERI that the surveillance was conducted by the FBI. On hearing this, BALISTRERI took the license number of the car and went home followed by BROCCA in his truck and the surveillance car. There was no personal contact between BALISTRERI and the driver. BALISTRERI neither grasped the Agent's shirt nor cocked his fist as if to throw a punch. He said, in fact, he knew better than to attack an FBI agent as he knew it to be a violation of federal law. BALISTRERI was assured that this was true.

BALISTRERI complained, however, about his treatment by the FBI, saying that surveillances and four years of investigation had hurt his business to a point where he was about to go broke. He also said he avoided some of his friends because he was embarrassed for them due to the fact that they had been contacted by the FBI and knew of the investigation and, therefore, might not want to be seen with BALISTRERI. BALISTRERI said he was also concerned that his children would be embarrassed. He also complained about police and IRS investigation. He also complained of adverse publicity afforded by "The Milwaukee Journal."

BALISTRERI conceded that his reputation as leader of the syndicate was the chief source of his troubles both with the law and the press, but he denied that there was a syndicate in Milwaukee although he knew there was a syndicate in Chicago.

BALISTRERI denied any knowledge of the BIERNAT murder or the COVELLI abduction. He commented that, although he couldn't

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hope to beat the Federal Government he had been fortunate recently in winning two cases--one consisting of a local charge involving a tavern violation and the other consisting of suppression of evidence in an IRS case. He attributed his success to his ability to pick good attorneys.

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The following investigation was conducted by SAs ALBERT B. KNICKRENN and ALBERT G. MACDONALD:

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[redacted]
On 6/14/63 [redacted] was located at his residence, [redacted]
[redacted] was questioned regarding the
alleged abduction of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI in Kenosha, Wis.
on 6/6/63. [redacted] advised that he is not acquainted with
COVELLI and has never been to Kenosha, Wis. He stated that he
did not believe COVELLI's story that he was abducted by FBI
Agents. He stated that this sounded fantastic to him. He
further advised that as a result of his arrest several weeks ago
by [redacted]

[redacted] He stated that he was formerly [redacted]
[redacted] which building was
recently razed and because of his arrest he was unable to obtain
[redacted] He stated that he had absolutely no
information as to who was responsible for the abduction and
subsequent murder of ANTHONY BIERNAT on 1/7/63 but wished that
the FBI would solve this case so that the pressure would be off.
He advised that now since COVELLI claims he was abducted this
puts additional pressure on the Italians and further puts them
in a bad light. He advised that he had hoped things would settle
down so that he could live as he had been living prior to BIERNAT's
murder. He stated that should he receive any information regard-
ing BIERNAT's murder or the abduction of COVELLI he would
immediately notify the FBI.

[redacted]
[redacted] was interviewed at his residence on 6/14/63. When the
agents rang the doorbell [redacted] came to the door and
agents stated that they wished to talk to [redacted]

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[redacted] hesitated a second and stated "Well, just a minute, I'll see if he's home." Whereupon [redacted] immediately came to the door, admitted the agents, but appeared to be nervous. [redacted] was questioned as to what he knew about the alleged abduction of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI by FBI Agents. [redacted] stated that he only knew what he had read in the paper. He stated that he felt that this story about the abduction is absurd and ridiculous. He advised that he knew the FBI was not involved in any such incident. He also advised that this was also the same opinion of [redacted] with whom he had had a conversation earlier in the week at [redacted]. He stated that he has absolutely no idea as to who may have abducted COVELLI nor what the reason for the abduction was. He stated that an instance such as this just puts additional pressure on the other Italians in Milwaukee and Kenosha and that there is already too much pressure put on the Italians as a result of the BIERNAT murder. He advised that he knows absolutely nothing as to who was responsible for the murder of ANTHONY BIERNAT on 1/7/63 adding that he didn't know BIERNAT and has never been to Kenosha. When it was pointed out to him that it is inconceivable that he knows nothing regarding the abduction and murder of ANTHONY BIERNAT because he associates with all of the known hoodlums in the Milwaukee area, he stated that this is true but that he doesn't discuss such things with them and doesn't want to be involved in any of the hoodlums' activities. He advised that should he receive any information either as to the persons responsible for the murder of BIERNAT or the abduction of COVELLI, he would notify the Milwaukee Office of the FBI.

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[redacted]

Attempts were made to locate and interview [redacted] on 6/13/63 at his residence. His niece [redacted] and his sister, [redacted] advised that he was not at home and that as far as they knew he was at his place of employment. They added that he was

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employed on the construction job at [REDACTED]

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On 6/14/62 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] was employed as a laborer by his company and that he was working at the site of [REDACTED] which is being constructed.

[REDACTED] was located on the job at [REDACTED] and after the agents had identified themselves [REDACTED] stated that he was sick and tired of being pestered by the FBI. He stated that after having been interviewed by the FBI the last time he was contacted, his attorney told him that he would not have to talk to the FBI and that if they wanted to talk to him they should get a warrant. He advised that he had absolutely nothing to say and that if we wanted to talk to him we should get a warrant. He advised that he may lose his job if the FBI did not quit bothering him.

[REDACTED] expressed a belligerent attitude and was very perturbed as to why the FBI had gone to his home and inquired from his young niece as to his whereabouts. He stated that this upset his sister and niece to no end. He reiterated that he had nothing whatsoever to say to the FBI that he was sick and tired of being bothered by the FBI and that if we wanted to talk to him we should get a warrant.

[REDACTED] was approached for interview as he approached his car with [REDACTED] which was parked in the lot behind his place of employment. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is run by STEVE DE SALVO, a top hoodlum of the Milwaukee Office. As the agents approached [REDACTED] and identified themselves [REDACTED] stated that he had absolutely nothing to say to the FBI and that upon advice of his attorney he was going to refuse to talk to the agents unless they had a warrant. [REDACTED] then got into his car but was unable to move his vehicle because of the Bureau car blocking his behind and

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the agents placing themselves in a position so that he could not close the car door. Finally after considerable conversation [redacted] admitted that he had heard of the COVELLI incident but that he did not know COVELLI. He advised that he had never even heard of him but did admit that he goes to Kenosha on numerous occasions to visit his wife's sister. He stated that he was last in Kenosha on Sunday, 6/9/63 and that there was not even any discussion of COVELLI's abduction. He advised that he has no idea as to whom was responsible for the murder of ANTHONY BIERMAT nor does he have any idea as to why BIERMAT was murdered. He stated that he works hard for a living at this [redacted] establishment and that his wife runs [redacted]. He advised that he stays home during the evenings and that he knew he was home on the evening of 6/6/63.

STEVE DE SALVO
2605 East Holmes ✓
Cudahy, Wisconsin

In an effort to contact STEVE DE SALVO, 2605 East Holmes, Cudahy, his home was contacted by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] the evening of 6/11/63. DE SALVO's tavern, Cudahy and Checker Cleaners, 1012 South First Street, Milwaukee where finally located.

DE SALVO when informed of the identity of agents refused to open the door. He said, by yelling through the store glass windows, that he wouldn't talk to agents, that if agents wished to talk to him, to get a warrant and take him downtown for questioning. He displayed an arrogant belligerent attitude, and engaged in shouting at agents to leave him alone, he had nothing to talk about.

DE SALVO was interviewed in the parking lot behind his place of business, Checker Cleaners, 1012 South First Street on 6/14/63. DE SALVO apparently was told by one of his delivery boys that

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[redacted] was being interviewed in the parking lot because DE SALVO came to the parking lot, approached [redacted] car on the passenger side and spoke in Italian to [redacted]. The agents told DE SALVO to speak English not Italian since he was an American citizen. Since agents had terminated their interview with [redacted] and the occasion presented itself to interview DE SALVO, [redacted] was permitted to leave. DE SALVO was questioned as to his knowledge of COVELLI's alleged abduction by the FBI. DE SALVO expressed complete contempt for the agents and sarcastically stated that he didn't even know COVELLI, never even heard of him. He also advised that he had never been to Kenosha, Wis. He advised that if he's done something wrong, get a warrant and if we didn't have a warrant he wasn't going to talk to us. He expressed complete contempt to the FBI and for law enforcement in general stating that we had caused him nothing but trouble, harrassment and embarrassment. DE SALVO was told that if he wants to act like a hoodlum he'll be treated like a hoodlum; if he wants to act like a gentleman he'll be treated like a gentleman. He was also told that it was hoodlums like himself that were causing the Italians in this area of the state to be drug through the sewers of the city of Milwaukee and that decent respectable Italians resented his actions. DE SALVO emphatically refused to look at the agents' credentials stating he didn't care about looking at them. He didn't have to talk to us and to get a warrant if we wanted to talk to him. DE SALVO was instructed to look at the agents' credentials and told that we didn't want another COVELLI incident, that we were FBI agents and we wanted him to know we were FBI agents and had credentials to prove it. When the credentials were held in front of his eyes he closed his eyes and turned his head away stating he didn't have to look at these credentials. The interview was one of complete contempt on the part of DE SALVO for the FBI.

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FRANK LA GALBO
1414 East Albion Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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The following investigation was conducted on the evening of June 11, 1963 by SAs ALBERT G. MACDONALD and [REDACTED]

The Agents entered Chico's Bar and Restaurant located at 1544 North Farwell Avenue and were told by [REDACTED] FRANK LA GALBO, was not at the bar but that he had been there only a few minutes earlier. [REDACTED] was advised as to the identity of the Agents and he stated that he would make an attempt to locate his [REDACTED] FRANK, the proprietor, and he left by way of the back door of the tavern. [REDACTED] returned approximately five minutes later to advise that he was unable to locate his [REDACTED] FRANK but that he expected that he might be in the bar later in the evening. The Agents remained in the barroom and approximately ten minutes later the telephone at the back bar rang and was answered by [REDACTED] who stated to Agent [REDACTED] that FRANK was on the phone and that [REDACTED] might speak with him. After properly identifying himself to FRANK LA GALBO it was requested that he make himself available for an interview and he advised that he was ill and that he didn't want to speak with Agents of the FBI about anything and that if the Agents wanted to know anything they should contact his attorney, DOMINIC FRINZI. Agents [REDACTED] and MACDONALD remained in the barroom for approximately five minutes and FRANK LA GALBO entered the front door and immediately advised Agents [REDACTED] and MACDONALD that while he respected the FBI Agents and the organization that he, too, was in business and that he would furnish no information to the FBI and referred the Agents again to his attorney DOMINIC FRINZI. There were several people in the bar at the time that LA GALBO entered and the patrons were aware of the identity of the Agents.

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[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The following investigation was conducted on June 13, 1963 by
SAs [redacted]

The Agents were met at the door of the [redacted] home. [redacted]
[redacted] by [redacted] the son of [redacted], and
after identifying themselves as Agents of the FBI were told by
[redacted] that his father was sleeping. The Agents advised
[redacted] that it was important that they speak with him
and [redacted] left the room and shortly thereafter [redacted]
entered the living room of the home and furnished the following
information. [redacted] stated that he has been [redacted]
at the [redacted] located at [redacted], for the past
7 years and that he usually works from 5:00 p.m. until closing
which is approximately 1:00 or 2:00 a.m. the following morning.
He stated that Thursday is his day off and that on Thursday,
June 6, 1963, he traveled to Madison, Wisconsin in his 1960
white Cadillac sedan bearing Wisconsin License [redacted] where
he underwent examination at the Wisconsin General Hospital.
[redacted] stated that he for the past four weeks has been suffering
with [redacted]
was much concerned as to whether or not [redacted]
He stated that he was assured that [redacted]
by the doctors at Wisconsin General Hospital and that he returned
to Milwaukee arriving in his car at approximately 3:30 in the
afternoon. [redacted] stated that he stayed home the entire after-
noon and evening and that no one used his 1960 white Cadillac.
[redacted] stated that he did not know ANTHONY BIERMAT and that he
is not acquainted in any way with WILLIAM or WEISER COVELLI.
[redacted] stated that he learned of the kidnaping of COVELLI in
the Milwaukee papers and that he has heard no information what-
soever as to who may have abducted COVELLI or BIERMAT. [redacted]

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stated that no one had access to his car and that it was in the [redacted] garage at all times on the evening of June 6, 1963.

[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On the morning of June 13, 1963 Agents [redacted] were admitted to the [redacted] apartment by [redacted] who stated that her husband was at home. [redacted] after being advised as to the identity of the Agents, stated that on the evening of June 6, 1963 he left his home as usual at about 9:30 p.m. and went directly to the Belmont Hotel located at North 4th and West Wells Street in his 1962 white Plymouth bearing Wisconsin License [redacted] stated that his visit at the Belmont Bar is a regular one and he cannot recall definitely who was in the lobby of the Belmont Hotel or at the Belmont Hotel Coffee Shop but he believes that he saw [redacted] who is also known as [redacted] He stated that he believes that he listened to a ball game in the hotel lobby and then at about midnight took a short ride along the lakefront and returned to his home at approximately 1:00 a.m. after he picked up a Chicago Tribune from the news box located at North Jackson and West State Street, which is approximately a half mile from his apartment home. [redacted] stated that he has not been in Kenosha, Wisconsin for several years and that he has no idea where the Bong Air Force Base is located and that he has never met WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI nor ANTHONY BIERNAT. [redacted] stated that he first learned about the BIERNAT slaying and the COVELLI abduction by reading local newspapers and that he has no information whatsoever as to who

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might have been responsible for either of these crimes. [redacted]
states that he is employed as [redacted]
located at [redacted] in Milwaukee, where he [redacted]
[redacted] He stated that he is generally in
charge whenever [redacted] leaves for the day
and that his hours are rather irregular due to the fact that he
has no specific duties assigned but is more or less responsible
for the safety of the property.

NICK COLLURA
737 North 10th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On the afternoon of June 13, 1963 the Agents identified themselves to FRANK COLLURA, the father of NICK COLLURA, at his residence 2005 West Orchard Street. Mr. COLLURA, who is 78 years of age, stated that his son was not at home but that he was driving a truck for some Milwaukee concern whose identity he was not aware of but stated that he was expected at the COLLURA residence at approximately 4:00 p.m. The Agents returned to the COLLURA residence at 4:00 p.m. but NICK COLLURA had not returned and another contact at the COLLURA home at approximately 5:30 p.m. resulted in the location of NICK COLLURA. COLLURA stated that he was residing at 737 North 10th Street in Milwaukee but that he came to the home of his father at the close of each working day in order to prepare food for his father. COLLURA stated that he is presently employed at the Rite-Way Tool and Dye Company located at 1212 South 1st Street, and that he is regularly employed from 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. He stated that he drives a 1954 light green Pontiac sedan and that no one but he himself drives this car. He stated that he does not recall his exact whereabouts on the evening of June 6, 1963 but stated emphatically that no one had his car on that evening, that he was not in Kenosha and that he never has visited the Bong Air

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Force Base. COLLURA, who was visibly upset by the presence of the Agents and their questioning, stated that he does not know WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI, that he has never seen the man to his knowledge and that he did not know ANTHONY BIRNAT during his lifetime nor is he acquainted with anyone in the vending machine business. COVELLI stated that he is presently 53 years of age, having been born May 14, 1910 and that he has nothing to do with criminal activities in the Milwaukee or Kenosha areas or at any other place.

[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On June 13, 1963 the Agents identified themselves at [redacted] to [redacted] who stated that she is the sister of [redacted] and that her brother was employed but that she did not know his place of employment. The Agents left their names and office telephone number with [redacted] and she stated that she would have her brother call upon his return. The Agents then proceeded to the [redacted] where [redacted] advised that he is a cousin of [redacted] but that he has very little to do with him and had no idea as to where he might be located. A return to [redacted] approximately an hour later resulted in contact with [redacted] who is 75 years of age and who advised the Agents after they identified themselves to her that she had no idea where her son might be located, but she assured the Agents that her boy is a good boy and that he has been supporting her for many years. At approximately 6:00 p.m. [redacted] telephonically contacted the Agents and stated that he would appear voluntarily at the Milwaukee Office

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of the FBI at approximately 7:00 p.m. June 13 for interview. [redacted] did report to the office of the FBI at approximately 7:10 p.m. and advised that he has been employed at the [redacted] in Milwaukee for the past 27 years and that on the evening of June 6, 1963 he was visiting with his girl friend, [redacted] at her home located at [redacted] in Milwaukee. He stated that a friend, [redacted] was also at the [redacted] apartment and that the three played cards and had a generally quiet social evening. He stated that while he owns a 1962 light blue Buick automobile, he has not been able to drive the same since May 22, 1963 when his license was revoked. [redacted] stated that he was last in Kenosha, Wisconsin in late January or early February of 1963 to see his attorney, [redacted] and to attend as a spectator at the Girls State Bowling Tournament held there. He stated that while visiting at the restaurant of [redacted] in Kenosha he was introduced to [redacted] WEISER COVELLI and that that is the first time that he ever met COVELLI, although he has known [redacted] for many years. [redacted] stated that he never met TONY BERNAT and that he knows nothing whatsoever about the abduction of WEISER COVELLI or the murder of ANTHONY BERNAT. [redacted] stated emphatically that he was not in Kenosha, Wisconsin on Thursday, June 6, 1963 and that he has not been there since his visit during the State Bowling Tournament with the exception of the trial for the drunken driving charge in Kenosha on [redacted] stated that he has much difficulty getting around since his license has been revoked and that he has been assisted in his travels by [redacted] his old friend who operates [redacted] at [redacted] in Milwaukee. [redacted] did not appear to be upset in any sense and stated that he would be most happy to cooperate at any time the FBI felt that he could be of any assistance.

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[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On June 13, 1963 Agents [redacted] identified themselves to [redacted] at the [redacted] apartment located at [redacted] stated in a very curt manner that her husband was not at home, that he was not expected home until after he finished his work early the next morning but that she expected he could be found at the [redacted] located at [redacted] after 4:00 p.m. The Agents attempted to gain entrance at the [redacted] at approximately 5:00 p.m. and the door was locked however a minute or two later an individual with keys in his hand opened the door and permitted the Agents to enter the cocktail lounge which he stated was not as yet open for business. The Agents told the individual that they were with the FBI and that they wanted to speak to [redacted] and he stated that he was [redacted] but that he didn't want to speak with any Agents of the FBI. At this point [redacted] demanded to be furnished with the names of the Agents in writing and he was furnished with the names. At this juncture the Agents stated "Are you sure you are [redacted] and he stated that "I am but I will not talk to you and refer you to my attorney DOMINIC PRINZI." The interview was terminated at this point and no further efforts were made to contact [redacted] or his attorney.

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[redacted]

The following investigation was conducted by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] on 6/14 and 15/63:

At Milwaukee, Wisconsin:

[redacted] advised on 6/14/63 that [redacted] is a subscriber to the answering service and that his records reflect that [redacted] who resides at [redacted], is in the juke-box and amusement machines business. Word was left with the answering service to advise [redacted] when he made his next call there that the FBI was looking for him, wanted to talk to him and for him to contact the local FBI office.

At [redacted] on 6/14/63, [redacted] son of [redacted] was shown the credentials of the Agents and advised that they wanted to speak with his father. [redacted] said that his father was not there and that he did not know when he would return. Agents observed a warehouse located at [redacted] where [redacted] keeps various jukeboxes and amusement machines to be locked and unattended. Agents then made inquiry at an [redacted] as this building is adjacent to above-mentioned warehouse. There, one [redacted] was advised of the Agents' identities, and inquiry was made as to whether or not [redacted] was known to him and, if so, what were his whereabouts because the FBI wanted to talk to him. [redacted] said that he is [redacted] and that he only uses [redacted] occasionally when he comes in to use the telephone. [redacted] was instructed to tell [redacted] that the FBI was looking for him and wanted to talk to him and that he was to contact the local FBI office.

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Later in the evening on 6/14/63, telephonic contact was made with [redacted] and he advised that he would come to the FBI office the following morning at ten o'clock to be interviewed. Subsequently, on this date, [redacted] wife of [redacted] Milwaukee attorney, called the office and requested to speak to the Agents who had been attempting to locate and interview [redacted]

At 9:55 AM on 6/15/63, SA [redacted] telephonically contacted [redacted] who advised him at that time that her husband was representing [redacted] and requested that the Agents meet with her husband at her husband's office at eleven o'clock that date. [redacted] was advised in no uncertain terms that the FBI had no desire to speak to her or her husband and wanted only to interview [redacted] and that if [redacted] came to the FBI office at ten o'clock he would be interviewed. [redacted] did not appear in the office at ten o'clock AM on 6/15/63.

At 10:25 AM, 6/15/63, [redacted] telephonically contacted the FBI office and advised SA [redacted] that his client, [redacted] did not wish to be interviewed by Agents of the FBI unless it was in the presence of [redacted] was advised that the FBI would not interview [redacted] in his presence and requested that [redacted] himself, contact the FBI and inform them himself that he would not be interviewed unless it was in the presence of his attorney.

At 11:29 AM June 15, 1963, [redacted] telephonically advised SA [redacted] that he would not present himself for interview by Bureau Agents unless he was accompanied by his attorney, [redacted] Accordingly, [redacted] was advised that the interview would not be conducted.

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The following investigation was conducted by SAs [redacted]
[redacted] and ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND:

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[redacted]
Kenosha, Wisconsin

[redacted] advised he has been acquainted with WILLIAM COVELLI almost all of his life and that COVELLI has cigarette machines in his place. He claimed the last time he saw COVELLI was four or five weeks ago at [redacted] that COVELLI with [redacted] collects from these machines each week, but that he is not present on all of the occasions that COVELLI appears at [redacted]

[redacted] stated that he always had the juke machines of ANTHONY J. BIERNAT at [redacted] and still has them, the company now being operated by [redacted]

He said he has known BIERNAT since 1949 or 1950 but hadn't seen BIERNAT personally since the forepart of December, 1962.

He stated he was formerly in partnership with WILLIAM COVELLI in the operation of [redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin, about five or six years ago. This partnership lasted one year.

He stated that a year or so ago he gambled at a gambling house operated by WILLIAM COVELLI and JOHN RIZZO at 56th Street and 22nd Avenue in Kenosha, Wisconsin but has not been so engaged in the recent years. He knows JOHN RIZZO but does not associate with him.

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[] stated that WILLIAM COVELLI and ANTHONY J. BIERNAT had always seemed to him to be respectable businessmen but that of course one could not know everything which was in a person's private life. He said he had no idea why BIERNAT was murdered or why COVELLI was allegedly abducted.

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He stated he had no information concerning gambling houses in Kenosha, Wisconsin at the present time and makes it a point not to inquire about such matters because if he referred a customer to such a place, he would lose the customer when the latter lost his money.

He said he was in partnership in [] with his [] that no one else had an interest in his place, but that he was financed by the Kenosha National Bank.

[]
Kenosha, Wisconsin

[] was interviewed at his residence by SAs [] and LE GRAND. He advised he is the [] and [] for his [] in the evenings. In the daytime he acts as [] of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

He said he has known WILLIAM COVELLI since childhood, formerly [] with COVELLI, and believes that COVELLI is a person who would hurt no one and is a "nice guy." He has no idea why COVELLI was abducted.

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He said he knew ANTHONY J. BIERMAT by sight and that BIERMAT had the reputation of being a good fellow and he has heard nothing concerning the cause or circumstances of BIERMAT's murder other than what he has read in the newspapers. He said he does not believe there is any big time gambling going on in Kenosha and does not know anything about COVELLI's gambling operations. He stated he hasn't enough money to gamble himself and support his family. He stated he knows JOHN RIZZO by sight but is not acquainted with him and knows nothing of his activities.

[redacted]
Kenosha, Wisconsin

[redacted] was interviewed at his residence by SAs [redacted] and LE GRAND on June 12, 1963.

He stated he is a [redacted] but does not associate with them and for the past 13 years has been employed as [redacted]. He is [redacted] in North Chicago, Illinois and had just returned from [redacted] at the time he was interviewed.

He stated he was not acquainted with ANTHONY J. BIERMAT or WILLIAM COVELLI although he knows what WILLIAM COVELLI looks like. He stated his father knew WILLIAM COVELLI's father who had been murdered some time ago.

The Kenosha Directory shows that [redacted] is employed as a [redacted]

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[redacted]
[redacted] (Glendale), Wisconsin

[redacted] was interviewed by SAs CARLYLE H. REED and [redacted]
[redacted] at his above-indicated residence, on 6/15/63, at
which time he furnished the following information:

He does not know WILLIAM COVELLI of Kenosha, Wisconsin, and has never been in Kenosha. He never knew ANTHONY BIERMAT and his knowledge of the BIERMAT slaying 1/7/63 and abduction of COVELLI on 6/6/63, is limited solely to what he has learned from news media. He could offer no thoughts as to who may have been responsible for the BIERMAT or COVELLI crimes.

[redacted] was born in the Italian community of the Third Ward in Milwaukee where the BALISTRERI's were also reared. In this way he became acquainted with FRANK BALISTRERI and his brothers.

[redacted]
the extent of his gambling. He denied operating lotteries on any other illegal activities.

He is employed as [redacted] on the south side of Milwaukee where he receives take-home pay of about \$100 per week. In addition he has income of about \$3000 per year on rental property on [redacted] Milwaukee, including the [redacted] which is rented to [redacted]

[redacted] He owns a late model blue Nash Rambler. He recently purchased the home at his present address in [redacted] for approximately \$34,000 in which he has a \$20,000 equity.

He claims that he spends his spare time at home with his wife and three children and has no association or contact with any hoodlum elements.

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JOSEPH SPERA
3023 North Cramer Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On 6/15/63 JOSEPH SPERA, advised SAs CARLYLE H. REED and [redacted] that he has resided in Milwaukee since his emigration from Italy in 1921 and at his current address for the past four years. He said he is a naturalized citizen of the United States and is employed as a garbage collector by the City of Milwaukee Department of Sanitation. He said he has been so employed since 1945. In addition, he related that in June, 1962 he purchased three phonograph machines (jukeboxes) from [redacted] which he operates at the following locations in Milwaukee:

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Sportmen's Bar
7th Street;

MANIACI's Bar, East North Avenue

Bon's Bar, North Avenue.

He said he derives an income of about \$12.00 per week per machine and that he embarked on this venture to provide himself with a source of income to supplement his pension allowance when he retires in about four years hence.

SPERA said that he was not acquainted with ANTHONY BIERMAT and had never heard of him until he read the publicity about his death. He denied any familiarity with WILLIAM COVELLI and when reminded that COVELLI's name had appeared prominently in recent newspaper accounts as the result of his alleged abduction in Kenosha, SPERA said he had not read the local newspapers for over a week because he has been on vacation and spending his entire day working around his home. SPERA said he had no associates or contacts in Kenosha, Wisconsin and had never visited Kenosha.

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SPERA said that he does not gamble and that he has no familiarity with gambling operations in Milwaukee or elsewhere.

He acknowledged that he has been acquainted for many years with the BALISTRIERI brothers, FRANK, [REDACTED] BUSTER, and others by reason of having grown up in the same neighborhood with them. He said his contacts with them in recent years have been limited to chance meetings on the street and at weddings and funerals.

He said that he has not been subjected to any pressures or demands for proceeds from his jukebox business.

SPERA said his only record of arrest consists of incidents when he was a youth when he was arrested for "hanging around" after which he was released without trial.

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MI 162-49

AUGUST MANIACI
2121 No. Hewhall
Milwaukee, Wisc.

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On 8/11/63, MANIACI was located at Maniaci's Bar and Restaurant, 1902 E. North Ave., and interviewed by SAs [redacted] and RICHARD C. THOMPSON. He stated that he had read of the COVELLI abduction but had no personal knowledge of it. He said that on 8/6/63 he worked at the bar until about six PM and then went home. He said it was no longer clear in his memory whether he stayed home the rest of the evening or whether he went out again around midnight. He said that the confusion arose over whether he went to the Belmont Hotel around midnight on 8/5 or 8/6/63. In any event, he went to the Belmont on one of those nights and the other night he stayed at home. He said that the night he went to the Belmont Hotel he went there with [redacted] and then met WALTER BROCCA and [redacted] as well as a man from [redacted] whose name he could not then recall. He said that these men all sat at one table in the coffee shop of the Belmont Hotel and talked until after two AM. He said that during this time he saw [redacted] Milwaukee PD, who was with his partner. MANIACI spoke to both of them and thought they would remember the incident. He said that after leaving the Belmont Hotel he went home as he had to work again the following day.

MANIACI also said that on the night of 8/7/63, he drove his wife to Rockford, Ill., to see her father who was old and sick. They remained until Sunday, but he got back in time to go to work at the bar by 6:10 PM.

MANIACI said that he was not acquainted with WILLIAM COVELLI, although he knew his father, RED COVELLI, whose head was blown off by a shotgun some years ago in Kenosha. MANIACI said that he undoubtedly saw WILLIAM COVELLI when the latter was a child but

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he would not know him at the present time. He said he thought that WILLIAM COVELLI had been sent to Italy as a child and had gone to school there.

MANIACI also stated that he thought it was ridiculous to think that the FBI had any connection with the abduction of COVELLI, but he thought that friends of BIERNAT might have committed the abduction.

MANIACI said that he had no information to furnish concerning the BIERNAT murder.

[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisc.

On 6/14/63, SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND and RICHARD C. THOMPSON attempted to locate [REDACTED] at one of his usual haunts, Duffy's Pool Hall located at Van Buren and State Streets. Thereafter, [REDACTED] was located at his residence. His mother and father answered the door and produced [REDACTED] upon request after the Agents had identified themselves.

[REDACTED] stated at first that he had nothing to say and that the Agents should contact his attorney. When asked concerning his whereabouts on 6/6/63, however, he consented to interview.

[REDACTED] said that he was not acquainted with WILLIAM COVELLI. He said that on 6/6/63 he spent the evening at Duffy's Pool Hall, remaining until midnight. Thereafter, he went to the Puppet Lounge and remained until closing.

[REDACTED] said that he had no information concerning the COVELLI abduction or the BIERNAT murder.

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[redacted]
Kenosha, Wisconsin

On 6/12/63, SAs [redacted] and RICHARD C. THOMPSON attempted to locate [redacted] at his residence. After the Agents had identified themselves, [redacted] said that her husband was at work on [redacted] but that he would be home after five PM.

[redacted] returned home shortly after five PM and was contacted by the above Agents as he descended from his truck, which bore the [redacted] advised as follows:

He spent Thursday night, 6/6/63, at home and he did not leave the house during the evening or during the night. He said this could be verified by his wife.

[redacted] stated that he was acquainted with WILLIAM COVELLI and considered him a "nice guy." He said that he had no information concerning COVELLI's abduction but was inclined to believe that the FBI had done it. It was pointed out to [redacted] that this was ridiculous as the FBI did not engage in that kind of activity. [redacted] also said that he had no information concerning the BRENNAT murder, but he asked whether he was being interviewed because he had a criminal record. He was informed that he was only one of many who were being interviewed.

After interview of [redacted] was interviewed separately. She stated that her husband was at home all night on 6/6/63.

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[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On 6/14/63, SAs [redacted] and [redacted] made several attempts to contact [redacted] at his place of business, [redacted]. At first contact several employees were questioned as to his location and at the second several other employees and patrons of [redacted] He was located at [redacted] on the third contact.

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He advised that he was working at [redacted] [redacted] the night of 6/6/63 and has not been to Kenosha, Wisc., for several years. He stated he did not know WEINER COVELLI but had heard of him. He knew of nothing concerning the alleged abduction of COVELLI on 6/6/63 other than what he has read in the newspapers. He stated that he is a legitimate businessman and is not happy that some of the Italians in this area have given the rest a bad name. He has no idea who could have been involved in the alleged COVELLI abduction but advised that if it did occur it was probably done by the local law in Kenosha since he feels that the "outfit" would have killed COVELLI if they bothered to abduct him or had the slightest doubt about him. He stated he would be happy to help the FBI in any way either in this matter or others if it would rid the town of the crooked Italians.

[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisc.

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On 6/13/63 and 6/14/63, SAs [redacted] and [redacted] made repeated attempts to locate [redacted] at his home address

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where he lives in an upper flat. The tenant downstairs was contacted on both dates and questioned as to his whereabouts and occupation. Several of the neighbors were likewise questioned concerning [redacted]

On 6/14/63, [redacted] was located and interviewed and stated he is [redacted] of [redacted] and is out of town often. He advised that on 6/6/63, during the evening till quite late, he was with his boss, the sales manager of [redacted] of [redacted] Wisc. It was noted that he was driving a 1960 brown Thunderbird auto with [redacted] which he claimed was his car. He stated that he does not know WEISER COVELLI and has not been to Kenosha, Wisc., for at least one year. He has read about the COVELLI abduction in the paper but has no idea who could have done it or if it is a true story. He feels the story sounds "phony" but could offer no theory as to the possible true situation.

[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On 6/14/63, SAs [redacted] and [redacted] attempted to locate [redacted] at home and at his place of business. His employer was contacted at his place of business and the agents informed him of their identity and desire to talk to [redacted]. Then, the Agents waited with [redacted] employer till he arrived and at this time was interviewed.

[redacted] advised that he was working on 6/6/63 till 9:00 PM; then went home to bed. He does not know WEISER COVELLI of Kenosha and was not aware that he had been abducted on 6/6/63. He has never been to Kenosha, Wisc., to his knowledge and has no idea who could have abducted COVELLI. He stated that if any such information came to his attention he would call the FBI.

MI 162-49

The following investigation was conducted by SAs [redacted]
[redacted] and ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND:

BUSTER BALESTRENE
1634 North Jackson Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On June 11, 1963 efforts were made to locate BUSTER BALESTRENE at his usual hangouts at the Clock Bar, Hickory Restaurant and Casino Tavern on North 5th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with negative results.

On the evening of June 11, 1963 BALESTRENE's automobile was found behind his home. His bell was rung successively and then Agents rapped loudly on the door but no one answered. SA LE GRAND then went to a phone booth located at the corner and telephoned BUSTER BALESTRENE, advised BALESTRENE of Agent's identity and stated he would like to speak to him about a matter for a few minutes. BUSTER said "I have nothing to say to you. Goodby." He then hung up.

SAM CEPALU
2572 North Holton
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On June 13, 1963 SAM CEPALU was interviewed at his residence by SAs [redacted] and LE GRAND. He stated he was not acquainted with WILLIAM COVELLI and knew nothing about the abduction of COVELLI or about the BERNAT case. He then became greatly

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incensed and stated he was an honest man trying to make a living and that he was unable to get a job because of his age and the fact that he had been arrested by IRS and was dependent for his support on his wife. He proceeded to pound a coffee table until an ashtray fell off of it twice and condemned the actions of the government in making an arrest while he was operating a bar and taking him out of the place in handcuffs in view of all the people in the neighborhood. CEPALU was forcefully told that if he were an honest working man as he claimed he had no fear of arrest, that in view of the fact he violated the law he must expect to be arrested and accept that as part of his profession and that no government agent was going to apologize to him for arresting him for being in violation of the law. He was told moreover that in his occupation as a bookmaker which was well known and for which he was arrested he was well aware of the activities of "the outfit" in intimidating bookmakers and pulling stupid mistakes such as the BIRNAT killing which brought heat upon them and following it with such a thing as the COVELLI abduction. CEPALU stated "The outfit -- all you fellows talk of the outfit -- what outfit." He claimed there was no such thing as an outfit. He was told that his statement that there was no outfit, in view of the fact that we know there was, was an indication that he was not an honest working man as he claimed but was on that side. Mr. CEPALU then apologized for his outburst and became more subdued in his conversation but said that he thought that the arrest made by federal authorities could have been done in such a way as to not cause embarrassment to himself. He stated he knew nothing of the COVELLI matter and that he had spent the evening of June 6, 1963 at home.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

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[redacted] was contacted at his residence on June 14, 1963 by SAs [redacted] and LE GRAND. His parents were present at the original contact and he was asked if he would discuss a matter with Agents in private and Agents interviewed him outside of his house. [redacted] at first stated he did not wish to be interviewed by Agents without the presence of his attorney. A state case against him on a charge of [redacted] had just been continued in court on that day. When he learned that the inquiry was not about his [redacted] activities he stated that he knew nothing about the abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI and was not acquainted with WILLIAM COVELLI. He said he knew nothing of the murder of ANTHONY J. BIERMAT other than what he had read in the newspapers. He said he had no theory on why COVELLI had been abducted. On June 6, 1963 he claimed to have spent several hours ending at 12:00 p.m. at Duffy's Pool Room located at Van Buren and State Streets, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and thereafter until approximately 1:30 a.m. on June 7, 1963 at the Puppet. He said he could not remember any of the individuals who were with him at either of these occasions and said these were the usual spots at which he hung out most of the week. He drives a 1962 maroon four-door Ford, Wisconsin License Plate [redacted]

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[redacted]
Kenosha, Wisconsin

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On 6/10/63 [redacted] advised SAs [redacted], and [redacted] that he is employed at [redacted] and lives with his parents at the [redacted] address.

[redacted] stated that he wanted to learn the vending machine business and as a result he worked as [redacted] for WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI. He said he worked irregular hours and was paid with cigarettes or other material items but was not a salaried employee. He stated that due to his interest in the vending machine business he was serving an apprenticeship and this accounted for his not receiving a regular wage.

[redacted] stated that he was at Greco's Restaurant, 56th Street and 22nd Avenue on 6/8/63 around 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. and no one mentioned the alleged abduction of "WEISER" COVELLI. He added that he has been in the area of Greco's Restaurant on several occasions recently, but he does not recall any unusual activity.

[redacted] advised that he did not know ANTHONY BIERMAT and could offer no information concerning his abduction or his murder.

[redacted] advised that he did not know anything about "WEISER" COVELLI approaching ANTHONY BIERMAT in company with [redacted] and STEVE DE SALVO with the purpose of "buying in" to BIERMAT's jukebox business.

[redacted] stated that COVELLI has three jukeboxes in Kenosha and they are located at La Strada's Bar, the Tropic Club, and Greco's Restaurant. He was asked if COVELLI had any jukeboxes in storage and he stated that he knew of no other jukeboxes currently in the possession of COVELLI.

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[redacted] advised that he would be willing to help the FBI in any way that he could and that he would immediately advise the Milwaukee Office if he heard of any information concerning ANTHONY BERNARD or the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI.

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MI 162-49

MICHAEL JOSEPH ALBANO
aka. Mike Albano
home add. 4144 N. 17th Street
bus. add. 1600 W. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On 6/11/63 SAs [redacted] and [redacted] proceeded to 4144 North 17th Street, Milwaukee, Wis. in an attempt to contact and interview MIKE ALBANO. At this address MIKE ALBANO's [redacted] advised that his [redacted] was downtown at the pizza restaurant and could be contacted at the 1600 West Wells Street address. Agents proceeded to Angelo's Pizza House and after waiting several minutes while ALBANO prepared a new batch of pizza batter were able to interview ALBANO.

ALBANO stated that he hasn't been in Kenosha since last year some time and that he has no information pertaining to the murder of ANTHONY BERNARD or the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI. He added that the only thing he knows about either matter has been read by him in the newspapers.

ALBANO advised that he is acquainted with only one person in Kenosha and that this was [redacted]
[redacted]

ALBANO stated he knows FRANK BALISTRERI and STEVE DE SALVO, both of Milwaukee and that he saw DE SALVO approximately two or three months ago when STEVE came into his restaurant for a pizza carryout.

ALBANO stated that he was working at the pizza restaurant the entire evening of June 6, 1963 and continued on into the morning of June 7, 1963. He stated his restaurant is open from 3 p.m. until 3:30 a.m. or later the following morning depending on how much business he has had during the evening.

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ALBANO advised that he does not know [redacted] and has never employed him for any legal services. He did state, though, that he is currently employing the legal services of DOMINIC FRINZI concerning a personal note judgment on file against him.

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ALBERT ALBANA, aka.
"Cadillac" Al
3027-52nd Avenue
Kenosha, Wisconsin

On 6/12/63 SA [redacted] made an attempt to interview AL ALBANA at his personal residence which is located upstairs over Dante's Bar. ALBANA did not respond to repeated ringing of his doorbell or to several knocks on the stairway door leading to his upstairs apartment. Subsequently the interviewing agent then entered Dante's Bar and conferred with [redacted] and he agreed to call AL ALBANA on the bar telephone. ALBANA answered the telephone and advised [redacted] that he didn't want to speak to the FBI and that he had nothing to say to any agent. Shortly thereafter he answered a question initiated by interviewing agent and the interview was conducted on the telephone because ALBANA stated very sarcastically that he would not let agent upstairs to talk to him.

ALBANA advised that he was in Greco's Restaurant located on 22nd Avenue and 56th Street, Kenosha on 6/6/63 from early afternoon until sometime after midnight. He ate his dinner at Greco's Restaurant and later that evening he played cards at the restaurant with WILLIAM COVELLI. He stated he did not notice any strange cars or any strangers around Greco's Restaurant at anytime earlier in the day or that evening.

ALBANA advised he has not heard anything since the alleged abduction of COVELLI and has no knowledge about what happened other than what he has read in various newspaper accounts.

ALBANA was very hostile throughout the interview and uncooperative in general.

MI 162-49

It was noted by Bureau Agents as they departed from Dante's Bar that ALBANA made a move as if to get into his personal car and upon hearing the Bureau car start up he walked to the curb and noted the Bureau car license number.

NI 162-49

[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

[redacted] was located and interviewed at his above-indicated residence on 6/14/63, after attempts were made to locate him at his place of employment. [redacted]

[redacted] and at the [redacted] both located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. [redacted] furnished the following information to SAs CARLYLE N. REED and [redacted]

He [redacted] is well acquainted with FRANK BALISTRERI (head of the hoodlum syndicate in Milwaukee), and that their families are long-time friends.

He does not know WILLIAM COVELLI, vending machine operator of Kenosha, Wisconsin, and first heard of him and his alleged abduction when he read about it in the newspapers or on news broadcasts. He claimed he had no knowledge of COVELLI's abduction, 6/6/63, had absolutely no information of possible pertinence regarding the abduction and had no suggestions as to who might have perpetrated the abduction. Likewise, he asserted that he had no information in connection with the BIRKHEAD slaying. He denied knowing [redacted] and pointed out that he is not acquainted in Kenosha, Wisc.

[redacted] who was not belligerent during interview, explained that he is the operator of [redacted] Milwaukee, Wisc.; that [redacted] operates the [redacted] and [redacted] both Milwaukee, Wisc.

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[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisc.

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[redacted] was interviewed at his place of business, [redacted] Milwaukee, Wisc., the [redacted] being a [redacted] was interviewed by SAs CARLYLE N. REED and [redacted]

He, [redacted] doesn't know WILLIAM COVELLI, Kenosha, Wisc., who was allegedly abducted on 6/6/63. He explained that he is not acquainted with the Italian "bunch" in Kenosha, Wisc., and only knew of COVELLI's abductors from news accounts of that incident. He claimed he had no information, hearsay or otherwise, which might be of assistance in identifying the abductors of WILLIAM COVELLI or the slayers of BIERNAT who was also from Kenosha. He explained that he is not acquainted with the Italian "bunch" in Kenosha. He does know FRANK STELLOH, an ex-convict (FRANCIS CONRAD STELLOH), who has resided in the West Allis, Wisc., area.

[redacted] dwelled on the fact he is [redacted] in debt as a result of going into his present place of business which was a new type of operation for him. since he had previously been a [redacted]
[redacted]

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PETER BARCA
1230 Sheridan Road
Kenosha, Wisconsin

On 6/12/63 SAs [redacted] and ALBERT G. MACDONALD attempted to locate PETER BARCA at the Flamingo Club, at his home and at the Maple Crest Golf Club where he was supposedly playing golf. He was finally located at his home. He stated that he had sold the Flamingo Club about two years ago and that he now owns and operates the Barca Belting Company, a dealer in new and used converted belts and equipment. He stated this gives him plenty of time and he spends most of his time playing golf. Also on Saturday, June 8, he had gone to the races at Washington Park in Illinois and had been at a golf tournament at Oakbrook, Wis. on June 10. He stated he had not heard about the COVELLI abduction until he read the paper on Monday night, June 10. He stated he has not been in touch with any friends in Kenosha and had no idea as to who may have tried to abduct COVELLI and he personally did not believe that the FBI would be involved in such a situation. He also stated that he has no opinion as to who may have been responsible.

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He stated that he was a very close friend of TONY BIERMAT and had seen him almost every day and had seen him later in the day on which he was murdered, namely, January 7, 1963. He stated he was unable to understand why BIERMAT had been killed because his jukebox route was not lucrative. He thought that BIERMAT paid his bills regularly, did not think he owed a large sum of money to anyone and did not think that BIERMAT did any gambling. He stated he thought it was a senseless murder and did not prove anything to anyone. He also stated he does not know who might have done this or the reason why.

[redacted]
On 6/13/63 SAs ALBERT G. MACDONALD and [redacted]

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interviewed [] at his residence and his elderly parents were present on the front porch. [] gave the impression that he would be cooperative but appeared nervous and puzzled as to why he was being interviewed.

He stated that he did not think he knew WILLIAM "BRISE" COVELLI although he might have seen him, and he knew nothing about COVELLI's alleged abduction. He stated that he was formerly a [] owned by [] but since that was closed he could not get []. He stated that he is now in the process of getting a [] in order that he could [] which had been his previous occupation. He stated that he has not discussed the COVELLI abduction with any of his associates and he had no idea as to whom may have done it.

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He also stated that as far as he knew he did not personally know TONY BIERMAT and knew nothing about his murder or who may have been responsible for it. He also stated that he has not been in Kenosha for eight years or more.

[]
On 6/13/63 SAs ALBERT G. MACDONALD and [] interviewed [] at his place of business, [] located at []. Although there were customers in [] the agents clearly announced that they were with the FBI and desired to talk to him. He seemed to resent being questioned by the FBI at his place of business especially when customers were present. He was asked about the WILLIAM COVELLI abduction and stated that he had not been in Kenosha for many years and that he did not know COVELLI and knew nothing about it other than what had appeared in the paper. He also stated that this had not been discussed by him or [] and friends when they convened at [].

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He also stated that he did not know TONY BIERNAT and did not know anything about why he had been murdered or who was responsible and also stated that he had not received any information from any of his associates about this matter.

CARLO DI MAGGIO
1526 North Franklin Place

On 6/13/63 SAs [redacted] and ALBERT G. MACDONALD contacted DI MAGGIO at his home just as he was leaving. He stated that he was about to go out to the County Hospital to get some more medicine.

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He stated that he had formerly run a butcher shop at 901 East Center Street but he had had a heart attack in May, 1962 and had since had to close his business. He stated that he had been quite sick and that his wife had died in about 1956 and he stays home most of the time because of his health. He also stated that [redacted] and his wife help to take care of himself and [redacted]. He stated [redacted] is in San Francisco. He stated that he does not associate with gamblers and hoodlums although he knows some of them because they grew up in the neighborhood where he has operated butcher shops in the past 4 years. He stated that he does not know anything about the COVELLI abduction, has not heard anything about it and has no ideas about it. He also stated that he does not know TONY BIERNAT and does not have any ideas or opinions in regard to why he was murdered.

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WALTER F. BROCCA
4023 South Kansas Street
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

The above individual was located and contacted at his residence during the evening hours of 6/11/63 by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] BROCCA at first stated that he did not desire to talk to the FBI or the representatives of any law enforcement agency about any subject whatsoever but then stated in answer to questions that he knew nothing concerning what was supposed to have happened to WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI at Kenosha, Wisconsin; that he heard nothing about it; did not want to know anything about it and could furnish absolutely no information whatever concerning this or any other matter.

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[redacted]
Kenosha, Wisc.

[redacted] owner and operator of [redacted] at the above address, which is a [redacted] was contacted on 6/12/63 by SAs [redacted] [redacted] stated that he has been acquainted with WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI for approximately 25 years; that he sees COVELLI periodically inasmuch as he has had COVELLI's vending machines in his place of business since the inception of its operation approximately two years ago, and he stated that he was completely surprised with what occurred concerning the allegations that WILLIAM COVELLI had been abducted on 6/6/63. [redacted] was interviewed at his place of business and he indicated that he believed he had no information at this or

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any time which would be of interest to any law enforcement agency. [redacted] stated that [redacted] currently working for [redacted] has by reason of previous sources been indicated as a big-time gambler and associate of various hoodlums in the Kenosha area by reason of [redacted] own admissions, having close contact with [redacted] whose background is being set forth in other portions of instant communication.

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[redacted]
Kenosha, Wisconsin

[redacted] of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI, is the operator of [redacted] at the above address, which is a [redacted] Upon previous contact by Bureau Agents to arrange for interview with [redacted] and [redacted] she stated she did not wish to be interviewed or otherwise annoyed and had exhibited a belligerent attitude. On 8/14/63, SAs [redacted] [redacted] contacted [redacted] at her place of business. She quietly agreed to be interviewed and was subsequently interviewed. Interview with [redacted] however, developed no specific information to identify the abductors of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI.

FRED "JEFF" COVELLI
7544 Sheridan Road
Kenosha, Wisconsin

FRED "JEFF" COVELLI is a hoodlum and a one-time suspect in the murder of ANTHONY BIERNAT, which occurred January 7, 1963, in Kenosha County, Wisc. JEFF COVELLI in recent years has been

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reportedly shot up sometime in Illinois, being a shotgun blast by suspected Chicago hoodlum.

FRED "JEFF" COVELLI, who has been unavailable to Bureau Agents on different occasions for purpose of interview, was located at his residence, 7544 Sheridan Road, Kenosha, Wisc., on 6/14/63, by SAs [redacted] at which time he was awakened from a sound sleep. FRED COVELLI is currently employed at a local manufacturing plant and works the night hours. FRED COVELLI during the course of interview claimed no knowledge of circumstances regarding the abduction of his brother, WILLIAM COVELLI or the identities of the individuals involved who would want to "pull" such a job. COVELLI stated that he did not hear of the abduction until the following morning, June 7, at which time he had returned from work and was called by his sister-in-law, ELEANOR COVELLI, wife of WILLIAM, at which time he heard concerning the abduction.

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JOHN C. RIZZO
1906 Emerson Road
Racine County, Wisc.

A number of efforts have been made by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] to contact and interview JOHN C. RIZZO, hoodlum and gambling partner of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI, in the past week but with negative results. Following the efforts made by Bureau Agents, [redacted], Milwaukee, Wisc., Attorney, called the Milwaukee FBI office on 6/14/63 and stated that he would make JOHN RIZZO available for interview by Bureau Agents sometime during the week of 6/17/63.

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[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The following investigation was conducted by SAs JOHN A. ROLTZMAN and [redacted]

On 6/14/63 it was determined from Wauwatosa PD that [redacted] last known address was [redacted] at this address no answer was received but contact was made with [redacted] who stated that the new tenants have been working around the apartment at [redacted] but have not moved in yet. She expected them to move in [redacted] she said their present address was unknown.

At [redacted] [redacted] said that he was not present nor was he at their current address. [redacted] where the telephone number is [redacted] she said that they would not be permitted to move into the [redacted] address because of the fact that [redacted] and that their permanent address would be the [redacted] address. She said that her husband was in downtown Milwaukee looking for a job either [redacted] or in the [redacted] and that she would have him contact the office when he got in touch with her. She was apparently very cooperative and made no inquiry as to the nature of agents business with her husband.

Within an hour her husband did contact the office and arrangements were made to interview him on 6/15/63.

On 6/15/63 [redacted] was contacted at [redacted] which he claimed is being operated by [redacted] and he furnished the following information:

It is noted that he was quite nervous at the outset of the interview but gave every appearance of being cooperative throughout the interview.

He has not been employed other than endeavoring to get [redacted]
[redacted] since about the first of the year, 1963.
[redacted] because the Milwaukee
Police accused the new chief in Milwaukee (where [redacted]
[redacted] is located) [redacted] has obtained by his
[redacted] and the place is
being run by [redacted]

He said he has only been to Kenosha about twice in his whole life and not at all in the past several years. He claimed not to be acquainted with WILLIAM COVELLI and to have never heard of ANTHONY J. BERNAT until his death. He said that he has not been going to downtown Milwaukee in the past several years, he used to hang out at [redacted] occasionally, and has not heard any talk or conversation about the death of ANTHONY BERNAT or the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI except the following:

[redacted] said that he hangs out occasionally at [redacted]
 Milwaukee, but he has no association other
 than social with the [redacted] whom he knows well or with other
 individuals who hang out there. He said that he used to be in
 business with [redacted] and was [redacted]
 [redacted] HIGH WHITE MARIJUANA, containing 50
 AUGIE MARIJACI is [redacted]

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He stated that he and his wife were at [redacted] every night during the week of June 3 until 10:30 or 11:00 p.m. and specifically they were there on Thursday night, June 6 (his wife had previously confirmed this information on June 14).

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[redacted] was questioned regarding his associates and knowledge of individuals of interest to this office and in an apparently cooperative manner furnished information not significant to this matter but of a general intelligence nature which is being made a separate communication for the Milwaukee Office.

[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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The following investigation was conducted by SAs [redacted] and JOHN A. HOLTZMAN on June 14, 1963:

[redacted] was located at his residence at the above address without any difficulty and upon agents identifying themselves he immediately admitted them to his premises and in an apparently cooperative attitude furnished the following information:

He is presently employed and has been so employed for the past two months at [redacted] located at the intersection of [redacted] Milwaukee (this is operated by [redacted]). He works from 4 to 6 p.m. and from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. and was so employed every night during the week of June 3 and specifically on Thursday night June 6, 1963. He said that he has not any personal knowledge and has not overheard any conversations relative to the ANTHONY J. BIERBAT murder or the alleged kidnapping of WILLIAM COVELLI. He claimed he was not acquainted with COVELLI or [redacted] Racine, but did admit acquaintances with all Milwaukee hoodlums who were mentioned to him. He claimed not to have any knowledge of the illegal activities of these individuals and said that he does not associate with them although he knows them by virtue of

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having grown up in the neighborhood with them. He said that he has not been to Kenosha and does not know anyone there and that he has absolutely no information relative to the activities of Kenosha individuals or Milwaukee Italians who go to Kenosha. He disclaimed acquaintanceship with FRANK STELLON.

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He said that none of the alleged Italian hoodlums come to [redacted] but rather that place is frequented by a crowd of [redacted]

[redacted] said that he has never met [redacted] but has seen him and knows who he is. He said that he knows DOMINIC PRINZI from his childhood and earlier associations and that he is a very good friend of FRANK BALISTRERI and [redacted]

[redacted] He said he goes to Gallagher's on more or less frequent occasions to visit with these men and "pay his respects." He denied, however, any information significant to their activities other than the operation of Gallagher's Restaurant and the Downtowner Bar.

[redacted] drives a white 1962 Buick bearing Wisconsin license [redacted]

Contact with [redacted] on the same date was had and he confirmed the fact that [redacted] was working his regular scheduled hours on the night of June 6-7, 1963.

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The following investigation was conducted by SAs [redacted] and JOHN A. HOLTZMAN on 6/14/63:

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[redacted] was located at the [redacted] operated by [redacted] and in an apparently cooperative manner furnished the following information:

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He works daily at [redacted]
He was so occupied on the night of June 6-7, 1963. This fact
was confirmed by [redacted] who was also at the
[redacted] on the occasion of the interview. [redacted]

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admitted acquaintanceship with all of the principals in the
investigation of ANTHONY J. BIERNAT's murder, namely, FRANK and
[redacted] BALISTIERI, operators of Gallagher's Steak House, STEVE
DE SALVO, JOE GUERRA, BUSTER BALESTIERE, FRANK STELLICH, JOHN
RIZZO of Racine and WILLIAM COVELLI of Kenosha. He said,
however, that none of these individuals have conversed with him
or in his presence relative to the murder of ANTHONY J. BIERNAT
or the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI.

He said that the talk among the Italian hoodlums was that
COVELLI was, in fact, abducted by FBI Agents. He claimed not
to be able to pinpoint the source of his information any further
and said that he personally did not believe it.

In an apparently kidding manner he suggested that [redacted]

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[redacted] concluded by stating that he did not have any information
or any concrete ideas as to the reason either for the killing of
BIERNAT or the alleged abduction of COVELLI. [redacted] said that he
drives a [redacted] registered in the name of
his wife under [redacted] the name of his wife
being [redacted]

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At the conclusion of the interview with [redacted] followed agents outside and stated that on Monday, [redacted] FRANK DALISIERI, STEVE DE SALVO, and FRANK STELLOH had a private conversation [redacted]. He did not have any information as to the subject matter of the conversation or opinions as to the significance of this matter.

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FRANCIS CONRAD STELLOH
1315 North 59th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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The following investigation was conducted by SAs CARLYLE N. REED and [redacted] on 6/11/63 and early hour of 6/12/63, in an effort to locate FRANCIS CONRAD STELLOH, a suspect in the BIERNAT abduction and slaying:

[redacted] Waukesha County, Wisconsin, furnished the following information:

The last heard from STELLOH about June 6 or 7, 1963 at approximately 1:00 P.M. when he telephone to [redacted] and said he had heard that [redacted] had [redacted].

[redacted] stated this was not true and he was worried about what might be behind such erroneous information, in view of the fact that STELLOH is an ex-convict and of unsavory reputation.

[redacted] He hopes to consummate purchase of [redacted] interest in the business in the near future. [redacted] moved out of [redacted] on May 1, 1963, and now lives in an apartment on [redacted] Wisconsin. She is separated from her husband [redacted] is supposed to be in the process of getting a divorce from him and is apparently still [redacted] did not know if STELLOH is still employed on a construction job at the VA Hospital, Wood, Wisconsin and last knew of him living

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with a relative on [redacted] Milwaukee (relative -
[redacted])

STELLON still drives a late model, white Ford Thunderbird (license number Y73573, Wisconsin, 1963). [redacted] said he would notify the FBI if he learned of STELLON's whereabouts in event he was found to be unavailable. He said he doesn't want anything to do with STELLON and is disappointed in [redacted] associating with STELLON.

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[redacted] Milwaukee, acknowledged that STELLON resides there, was not home and his present whereabouts was unknown. [redacted] was abrupt and would not discuss STELLON further.

Negative efforts were made to locate [redacted] and/or STELLON at [redacted] Wisconsin where [redacted] is listed as the occupant of [redacted]

STELLON's Ford Thunderbird was not located at any of the above-described places where efforts were made to locate him. A telephone call to telephone information, determined that [redacted] has a new unlisted telephone number at [redacted] Wisconsin, and the number was not available.

The following investigation was conducted by SAs [redacted] and JOHN A. HOLTZMAN on June 14 and 15, 1963:

On June 14, 1963 no answer was received at [redacted] to the doorbell either of [redacted] apartment or the lower part of the house occupied by [redacted]. No cars were in evidence at this place. Likewise STELLON's car was not observed at [redacted] operated by STEVE DE SALVO where STELLON allegedly spends some time.

Contact was had with [redacted] for Merritt-Chapman and Scott, prime contractors for the construction of the new

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facilities at the Veterans' Administration Hospital, Woods, Wisconsin. [] said that STELLON had not worked since May 6 leaving without notice.

[] could furnish no information relative to STELLON's whereabouts but did state that STELLON was in [] on Monday, June 10 in company with FRANK BALKSTRERI and STEVE DE SALVO. Informant said that STELLON is not employed at the present time because of back trouble which is an old physical ailment of his and he is believed to be under doctor's care, identity of the doctor unknown.

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On 6/15/63 an attempt was made to locate STELLON at his residence early in the morning and it was noted that his car was not in evidence. The door was answered by [] who stated that STELLON was at the address on June 14 during the afternoon doing some painting but [] did not know where he spend the night as he did not come home and did not leave any information where STELLON might be at the time of the interview. He said that STELLON was not working at the present time as he was under the care of a physician, identity unknown. He promised to advise STELLON to contact the office inasmuch as an interview with him is desired as soon as he heard from or located STELLON. [] was somewhat hesitant to furnish information but not belligerent at any time.

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At [] it was observed that STELLON's car was not in evidence and contact was had with [] who resides in [] at this address. She was immediately belligerent and refused admission to agents and at first disclaimed knowledge of the identity of FRANK, when this name was mentioned to her and thereafter admitted knowing FRANK STELLON but expressed indignation at the fact that the agents would inquire about her as to his whereabouts. She admitted that she had seen him on June 14 and when asked if he had been to her apartment answered by a knowing grin but no other acknowledgment.

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She disclaimed any information as to his activities, employment or where he might be located other than home but she did say in the course of questioning "maybe he went fishing with some friends." She immediately refused to elaborate on this statement and shortly thereafter again expressed indignation that she was being interviewed and terminated the interview by closing the door. She was advised, however, prior to this that she should notify STELLON that we desired to talk to him. She apparently acknowledged yes by nodding her head but making no statement.

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Recontacts of Complainant WILLIAM
COVELLI and Interview of Mrs. WILLIAM COVELLI

On June 12, 1963 SAs [] and ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND interviewed WILLIAM COVELLI, 7827 - 36th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin, who advised that he forgot to report an incident which occurred on the evening of June 5, 1963, the day before he was allegedly abducted. While returning home on this date he observed a car with a narrow grill behind him at 60th Street and 22nd Avenue and subsequently observed a car with the same type of grill behind him on Roosevelt Road, Kenosha, Wisconsin. Upon arriving home about 9:20 or 9:30 p.m. on June 5, 1963 he picked up his wife and went for a ride to the Sharrfen Subdivision of Kenosha, Wisconsin, when both he and his wife thought they observed an automobile following. They made a U-turn on Sheridan Road and saw an automobile which they described as a blue Plymouth with Illinois license plates containing two men go down the street. This car proceeded approximately five blocks and then made a turn off Sheridan and they discounted anything connected with the car because it bore Illinois plates.

Mrs. WILLIAM COVELLI, 7827 - 36th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin, on June 12, 1963 verified to SAs [] and LE GRAND the statement made above by her husband.

On June 14, 1963 WILLIAM COVELLI advised SAs LE GRAND and RICHARD C. THOMPSON that he had no further information regarding his alleged abduction. Asked whether he would give a yes or no answer as to whether he would take a polygraph examination on the facts of the abduction, he said that he

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would not without the consent of his attorney. COVELLI also declined to answer any questions relative to the BIKENAT murder, although it was pointed out to him that his abduction was apparently related thereto.

COVELLI was noticeably nervous during the interview. He said, however, that he was not particularly apprehensive during the daytime but that the nights were bad.

COVELLI stated that one of the reasons why he did not wish to discuss the BIKENAT case was the fact that shortly after the body of BIKENAT was found he was interviewed by a member of the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office and thereafter his name was mentioned in the newspapers in connection with it. He was told that was a good reason for dealing face to face with the persons he talked with, that if he had nothing to hide, there was no reason why he could not discuss the matter with the Agents who would keep the matter confidential. On the other hand, his refusal to discuss the matter left an implication that he had something to hide. COVELLI stated that he did not want to discuss any matter without the presence of his attorney.

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Efforts of Attorney [redacted]
[redacted] To Use Local Authorities,
The Press and Public Officials To
Obtain Information and Publicity

On June 7, 1963 [redacted] attorney for WILLIAM COVELLI, informed SAC PAUL H. STODDARD and SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON and ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND that about a month previously [redacted] had observed a car which was apparently used in a surveillance of WILLIAM COVELLI at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He said that [redacted] took the license number of this car which was Q-9131. He said he believed that this vehicle might be connected with the persons who abducted COVELLI and he, therefore, desired to know to whom the license was registered and particularly to know whether that license belonged to the FBI. Attorney [redacted] was informed that the COVELLI abduction would be investigated by the FBI but that the results of investigation would not be divulged to him.

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On June 7, 1963, at the time he advised SAC PAUL H. STODDARD that his client WILLIAM COVELLI had been abducted on the previous night, Attorney [redacted] also stated to SAC STODDARD that he wanted to pick up [redacted] and have him present during the investigation of the COVELLI complaint.

[redacted] is [redacted] of the Milwaukee Police Department detached from his department and assigned to the John Doe investigation being conducted in Milwaukee County. [redacted] was informed by SAC STODDARD that the FBI would conduct its own investigations and would interview COVELLI and that any business that [redacted] had with [redacted] would have to be conducted separately. Thereafter the investigation went forward without [redacted]

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On June 10, 1963 [redacted]
[redacted] advised SA [redacted] that he had learned
that attorney [redacted] had filed a complaint concerning Sub-
ject's abduction with [redacted] John Doe
Investigator. [redacted] said that [redacted] wrote up a complaint
and gave it to Circuit Judge JOHN L. COFFEY, who is in charge
of the John Doe proceedings. [redacted] said that COFFEY would
have nothing to do with the complaint.

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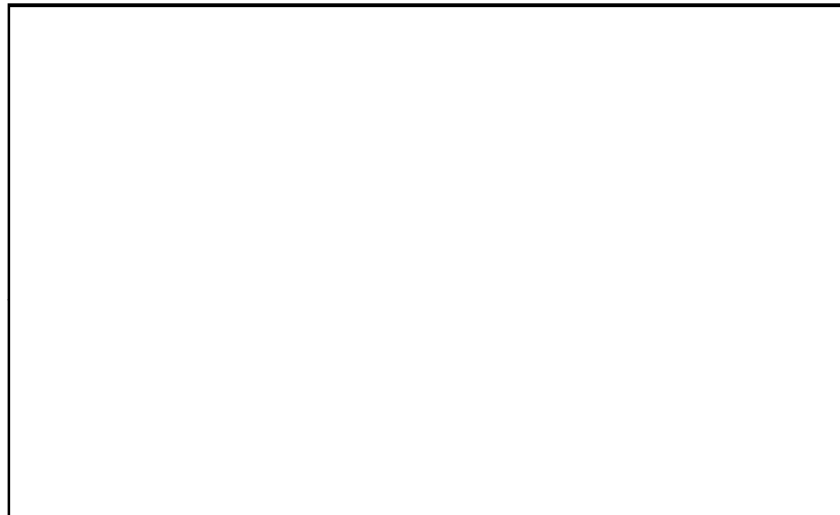
On June 11, 1963 SA ALEXANDER D. HANSON, Madison RA, received
a call from the Motor Vehicle Department, advising that in-
quiry had been made by the Detective Bureau of the Milwaukee
Police Department concerning 1963 Wisconsin License Q-9131,
which license is assigned to Milwaukee but registered under
the fictitious name of JAMES HART of Fern, Wisconsin. Later
on June 11, 1963 it was determined through [redacted]
[redacted] Milwaukee Police Department, that [redacted]
had sent a teletype to the Motor Vehicle Department requesting
the above registration.

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On June 11, 1963 [redacted] informed that [redacted]
[redacted]

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On June 11, 1963 Circuit Judge JOHN L. COFFEY was contacted by SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND and [redacted] in response to his request made to ASAC J. WALLACE LA PRADE. Judge COFFEY said that attorney [redacted] had been in touch with two John Doe investigators who had received some information which might be of value. Judge COFFEY identified the investigators as [redacted]

[redacted] respectively, detached from the Milwaukee Police Department for work with the John Doe investigation. Judge COFFEY made available a memorandum dated June 7, 1963 which stated that at 4:30 a.m. on that date [redacted] received a call from attorney [redacted] who said that a client of his had been abducted and beaten in Kenosha by abductors who were supposed to be FBI Agents. [redacted] told [redacted] that he was meeting SAC PAUL H. STODDARD or the FBI immediately. [redacted] agreed to meet [redacted] at 5:30 a.m. at a restaurant at 12th and State Streets. Later [redacted] who appeared at the restaurant as scheduled, was

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informed by telephone by [redacted] that the FBI did not want [redacted] along on the investigation and that [redacted] was going to Kenosha with the FBI. [redacted] said he wanted [redacted] to know his whereabouts in case anything happened to him.

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A further memorandum addressed to Judge COFFEY by [redacted] under date of June 11, 1963 summarized [redacted] contact with [redacted] at the latter's residence on June 10, 1963. [redacted] was also present along with [redacted]. There was a discussion of COVELLI's abduction. [redacted] expressed the opinion that the hoodlum element did not abduct COVELLI since he was not roughed up and no money was taken and the sole purpose of the abductors seemed to be to scare COVELLI into discussing the BIERHART case. [redacted] questioned [redacted] concerning the length of his acquaintance with COVELLI. [redacted] said he had known COVELLI for five months but he didn't disclose how they met. [redacted] told [redacted] that COVELLI came to his office about six weeks ago to discuss a tax case, at which time he complained that he was tailed from Kenosha to Milwaukee and that the men surveilling him were then in the lobby of the building. At that point [redacted] left the office and went downstairs to pick up some books from COVELLI's car. She observed the men in the building lobby. [redacted] also told [redacted] that COVELLI got the license number of the surveillance car as Q-9131 and [redacted] determined that it was issued to JAMES HART of Fern, Wisconsin. The above memorandum also stated that [redacted] asked [redacted] to give a "fair shake" to [redacted] when she came up for trial. [redacted] and in his opinion she was getting too much notoriety. [redacted] got the idea that [redacted] took an undue interest in this girl. The memorandum also contained a statement that [redacted] was not quite satisfied with the way the FBI was handling the COVELLI

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abduction and that [] was trying to discredit the FBI and wants to prove that the FBI was involved in the abduction or to create that impression.

On June 12, 1963 SAs CARLYLE M. REED and [] were conducting investigation in Kenosha when, at about 9:45 p.m., they passed by the home of WILLIAM COVELLI. It was observed that there were no lights on in the house and there was no evidence of a car being there so no attempt was made to contact anyone at that time. However, a Kenosha Police Department patrol car followed the Bureau car driven by the above Agents and stopped the Bureau car about two blocks from the COVELLI residence. [] asked for the Agent's identification and credentials and badges were displayed. Thereafter [] asked the Agents to accompany him to the Kenosha Police Department because it was necessary to establish beyond any doubt that the Agents were, in fact, the persons named in the credential cards. He said this was because of the COVELLI abduction. [] said that COVELLI was getting police protection as a result of his abduction. After arrival at the Kenosha Police Department, [] and [] stated that they wanted to know the identification of FBI cars in the area because of their duties in giving COVELLI police protection. They complained that in checking with the Motor Vehicle Department they had run into a problem with the identity of Wisconsin License C-9131. They said that they would like to know if that car belonged to the FBI. They were advised that inquiry was being made in the matter.

On June 13, 1963 [] Kenosha Police Department, advised SA WILLIAM J. HIGGINS that the request made of Agents REED and [] on the previous night was

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unauthorized and he further stated that he understood the position of the FBI in matters such as this. He extended his apologies for the manner in which his officers had acted.

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On June 12, 1963, Milwaukee Sentinel reporter [] contacted ASAC J. WALLACE LA PRADE and asked for information concerning Wisconsin License Q-9131. [] was informed that the official position of the FBI was not to disclose facts concerning an investigation which was under way. [] then stated that attorney [] is certain that the car bearing the above license is significant in the COVELLI abduction. [] said that the Kenosha Police Department was going to identify the registrant. It should be noted that [] contacted ASAC LA PRADE at 6:30 PM or about three hours prior to the time the Kenosha Police Department accosted SAs REED and [] set forth above.

As the Bureau is aware, the license numbers of Bureau automobiles are registered at the Motor Vehicle Division in Madison, Wisconsin, under fictitious names. Whenever an inquiry is made of the Motor Vehicle Division concerning one of our license plates, the Milwaukee Office is immediately notified of the source of the inquiry. Any police department making the inquiry is then contacted to determine the reason therefor. Both the Milwaukee and Kenosha PD's know of our interest in license number Q-9131 and by implication understand this interest, but no admission has been made to these departments that it is our number in order to forestall any publicity which might appear in the newspapers if a leak occurred in the Departments. There has been no newspaper mention of this license number to date.

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KENOSHA POLICE DEPT. AND CRIMINAL CONDITIONS, KENOSHA

For a number of years, informants of the Milwaukee Office, located both in Milwaukee and Kenosha, have advised that the BALISTRERI outfit operated a sizable crap game in Kenosha, which was run by JOHN C. RIZZO of Racine and WILLIAM COVELLI of Kenosha on their behalf. Along with this type information, informants also advised that [redacted] of the Kenosha PD was the bagman for [redacted] in collecting pay offs from this operation and other gambling operations in Kenosha.

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On 1/23/63, "The Milwaukee Journal" quoted Governor JOHN REYNOLDS of Wisconsin as declaring "that crime was festering in three areas of the State...and was routed in the cities of Milwaukee and Kenosha."

With the advent of the Bureau's investigation into the abduction and murder of ANTHONY J. BERNAT in January, 1963, the following information was received apropos of this condition:

PCI [redacted] of Kenosha, who formerly worked for [redacted] [redacted] said that he is certain there is something wrong with the Kenosha PD based on the fact that gambling and prostitution are so flagrant and wide open. He mentioned specifically the above crap game of RIZZO and COVELLI and also specifically Dante's Bar and several houses of prostitution. He also pointed out that he had just heard that [redacted] was [redacted] where gambling was carried on. (This is possibly [redacted])

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Information was received from [redacted] on 11/23/62 as to the identity of 15 joints in Kenosha where betting cards

NI 162-49

relative to sporting events were available. [redacted] also said that it is a well known fact that Kenosha Police have orders "hands off" in respect to Dante's because of the long existing friendship between [redacted] of the PD.

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[redacted] said that many Illinois gamblers known to [redacted] frequent Dante's card and crap games.

On 5/15/63, [redacted] upon interview, said that he had grown up with a number of the "West Side gang" in Kenosha and was good friends with many individuals of that group who were considered gamblers and hoodlums but that he saw no reason to break off his associations, and, in fact, thought they were beneficial to the PD.

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He said that he had been introduced to JOSEPH GURERA and STEVE DE SALVO at Greco's Restaurant in November, 1962, and he had heard that GURERA and DE SALVO sometime in the same month had contacted ANTHONY BIERMAT. He said he did not believe that COVELLI was with them at that time but that he believed COVELLI saw BIERMAT a few hours earlier. He related that he had confronted COVELLI about the BIERMAT murder. COVELLI "swore on his father's grave that he knew nothing about it" and that he was afraid to talk to the FBI "because of the hoodlum element." On this occasion, [redacted] said the only person in the Kenosha area he knew was controlled by the hoodlums was RIZZO and that although RIZZO and COVELLI had formerly run a crap game they were no longer partners.

On 5/2/63, [redacted] acknowledged that he had operated a crap game in Kenosha in the past but discontinued because he was not making a profit.

As of April 19, 1963, [redacted] said that RIZZO and COVELLI, whom he knew as long-time gamblers and alleged members of the BALISTRERI outfit, were organizing Kenosha bookies with a view to reopening operations in Kenosha [redacted]

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MI 162-49

From informants both in Milwaukee and Kenosha, it was known that gambling, except for small bookmaking, was closed down in Kenosha following the law enforcement heat brought about by the BIERHAT abduction and murder and the killing of [redacted] secretary, DOROTHY BITAUTIS, by [redacted] on 4/1/63, which shooting she admitted to the coroner, stating that she had observed them together at a bar and going into [redacted] apartment. She was subsequently charged with first degree murder, and the trial is to commence during June, 1963. [redacted] resigned effective June 15, 1963, after approximately 60 days of his accumulated leave was used.

The shutdown of gambling in Kenosha seemed to date specifically from the meeting [redacted] had with alleged gamblers on February 13, 1963.

On 4/6/63, Kenosha informant said that the uncertainty of the gamblers and the law enforcement pressure was heightened by [redacted] stepping down and his replacement by [redacted] whom they fear as absolutely unapproachable.

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NI 162-49
LOG:KY

[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On 6/11/63, Milwaukee County Judge COFFEY, 401 Milwaukee County Building, Milwaukee, called the Milwaukee Division to advise that two detectives who are working for the John Doe Grand Jury had been contacted by Attorney [redacted] and that they had some information which would be of value to the FBI.

On the same date Agents of this office contacted [redacted] investigators for the John Doe Grand Jury in Milwaukee. [redacted] stated to Bureau Agents that [redacted] believed that if the FBI or some other police agency was responsible for the kidnaping of COVELLI he could make a sizable recovery in a civil suit for damages, and stated that he would "make Lake County into a swimming pool and retire for the rest of his life."

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In regard to [redacted] advised that the Milwaukee Police Department Vice Squad had recently arrested [redacted] Milwaukee Police Department [redacted] who had in her possession a notebook containing the telephone numbers of numerous individuals, and also the names of four men who may be connected with Local 200 of the Teamsters Union with the notation, "Referred by [redacted]" The notebook itself was not seen by the contacting Agents.

[redacted] advised that [redacted] had requested a [redacted] named [redacted] to give [redacted] a fair shake when she comes up for trial. [redacted] acknowledged that [redacted] and in [redacted] opinion she was receiving too much notoriety. In [redacted]

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LGG:RF

[redacted] opinion [redacted] seems to have an undue interest
in [redacted]

On 6/12/63, [redacted], Milwaukee Police Department
Vice Squad, advised that on 3/27/63, he had received an
anonymous telephone call that a [redacted] was
[redacted] Milwaukee.

[redacted] dispatched [redacted]
to [redacted] in response to the complaint. [redacted]
advised that [redacted] was let into this apartment
by a white female who answered to the name [redacted]. After some
conversation [redacted]

[redacted]
The officers placed [redacted] under arrest for [redacted]
and during a search incidental to arrest took an address book
belonging to [redacted] furnished Bureau
Agents the address book taken from the prostitute, which address
book is the property of the Milwaukee Police Department under
Property Inventory [redacted]

Upon inspection of the address book it was determined the book
reflects there are 31 names recorded, six of which had
inscribed below, "Referred by [redacted] or "Referred by [redacted]
Three of the persons referred by [redacted] have been identified
and are [redacted] who is a Wisconsin attorney who has
his office at [redacted] who is
[redacted] of Local 200, Teamsters Union; and [redacted]
[redacted] Milwaukee. Many of the other
31 names listed have been identified as [redacted]
in the Milwaukee area.

[redacted] advised that he did not personally inspect this
notebook when it was obtained as evidence and therefore was not
cognizant of the fact that [redacted] name was in the notebook.

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MI 162-49
LOG:RF

[] advised that if any information were obtained by the FBI which would indicate that [] he would appreciate being notified of this fact and would at once institute a most vigorous investigation to obtain state process against []

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On 6/12/63, [] Milwaukee Police Department Special Investigative Squad, made available the files of his squad to Bureau Agents. They reflected the following information pertaining to []

On April 6, 1962, members of the Special Squad observed [] sitting in STEVE DE SALVO's 1961 white Pontiac forder hardtop, 1963 Wisconsin License A73-895, which was parked across the street from Gallagher's Restaurant, 826 North 3rd Street. In the same automobile with [] were STEVE DE SALVO, BUSTER BALESTRERE, [] and FRANK BALISTRIANI. They drove to [] Milwaukee and entered that building, which is owned by [] They stayed in the building fifteen minutes and returned to Gallagher's where [] got out and entered a white top and yellow bottom 1954 Chrysler forder sedan, 1962 Wisconsin plates [] (This automobile is listed to [] Milwaukee, father of [] returned to [] and got out of the automobile, at which time officers of the Special Investigative Squad interrogated him. [] stated that he was [] and the automobile he was driving belonged to his father and his father also owned the apartment house at [] said he had his business office [] Milwaukee.

A Special Investigative Squad informant advised on April 6, 1962, that [] is [] for

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[redacted] and the Teamsters Union Local 200.

On Tuesday, July 10, 1962, at 10:45 PM a routine check at Gallagher's Nightclub, 829 North 3rd Street, was made by the Special Investigative Squad and [redacted] was at a table with JOSEPH FRANK GURERA and [redacted] (son of [redacted]) left at 11:30 PM, got into a 1962 white Chevrolet with Illinois License [redacted] and then was stopped and interrogated by the Special Investigative Squad on North 3rd Street in Milwaukee. [redacted] stated to the Special Investigative Squad that his mother was the person who

[redacted] in Milwaukee. He said that he was [redacted] in Milwaukee and also has an office in Chicago, Illinois. He said that he rents automobiles from the Executive Auto Lease in Chicago and that is why he is driving an automobile with Illinois license. [redacted] stated that he dislikes being bothered with insurance and repairs on an automobile as he leases from this company. During the interview [redacted] appeared to be exceptionally nervous. After the interview the Special Investigative Squad made the following notes in the file: "Our interview closed and when we returned to the front of Gallagher's we noticed [redacted] car parked in front. [redacted] wanted no time in returning to Gallagher's. What connection [redacted] has with GURERA and [redacted] is not known at the present time. We also don't know why he appeared to be so nervous, both on the street and in Gallagher's and why he returned to Gallagher's so fast."

On September 18, 1962, members of the Special Investigative Squad again stopped and interrogated [redacted] at which time [redacted] was driving a 1961 Chevrolet, Illinois plates [redacted] stated that the car was leased from the Executive Auto Rental Company, 6501 North Western, Chicago.

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LGG:RF

The files of the Special Investigative Squad reflect the following newspaper clippings from the "Milwaukee Journal" pertaining to JAMES SHELLOW:

The "Milwaukee Journal" for September 28, 1962, states that a speeding ticket was issued January 21, 1962, to Attorney JAMES SHELLOW and was released and later reinstated. Police Chief HOWARD O. JOHNSON said he ordered Captain SPRAGUE to investigate to determine whether the particular zone where SHELLOW was stopped was properly marked. SPRAGUE thought the Chief said release the ticket. Patrolman JOHN W. DODGE, 6th Police District, ticketed SHELLOW for driving 39 MPH on South 27th Street. SHELLOW had previously written a letter of protest to the Fire and Police Commission pertaining to the promotion of Sgt. JOHN J. LAVIN to Captain of the Milwaukee Police Department Special Investigative Squad. SHELLOW stated that the Special Squad was "picking on" FRANK BALISTRIERI

An editorial in the "Milwaukee Journal" stated that PATRICK MADDEN, Assistant City Attorney, dismissed a speeding ticket issued July 21, 1962, to attorney JAMES SHELLOW because the arrest took place in a location not covered by the city speeding ordinances. The Milwaukee Police Department sought a state warrant which was denied by District Attorney BEN WEINER because "the matter was dragged out too long already."

The "Milwaukee Journal" for 10/25/62, states that Judge JOHN E. KRUEGER ordered a hearing on SHELLOW's speeding case and SHELLOW told the Judge that Chief JOHNSON told him, "If ever I can do something for you, let me know." SHELLOW said he left the speeding ticket with the Chief with the understanding that he would take care of it.

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LOG:EF

In the "Milwaukee Journal" for 12/4/62, an article appeared reflecting a raid by Federal agents of the Internal Revenue Service at JENNIE ALIOTO's apartment, 1609 North Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee. JENNIE ALIOTO is the bookkeeper for FRANK PETER BALISTRERI. The article stated that JAMES SHELLOW arrived at the apartment while the raid was in progress, but was excluded from the apartment.

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On 6/12/62, the records of the Milwaukee Police Department Bureau of Identification were searched by Clerk [redacted]

[redacted] They reflected the following information pertaining to [redacted] born [redacted]



In addition to other pertinent information the files of the Milwaukee Police Department Bureau of Identification reflect that [redacted] real name was [redacted] FBI [redacted] Originally she was a resident of [redacted] Minnesota, and she has been arrested by [redacted]

[redacted] Milwaukee Police Department Vice Squad, was recontacted on June 13, 1963, and stated he believed this [redacted] had only recently arrived in Milwaukee and that she originally came from Chicago.

MI 162-49
LGG:KF

[redacted] John Doe investigator, advised on 6/13/63, that
[redacted] had told him that he had met [redacted]
in an [redacted]
[redacted]

On 6/13/63, [redacted]
advised Bureau Agents that he had been instructed by [redacted]
he was not to give any information to the FBI or Milwaukee
Police Department or any other law enforcement agency, and to
give as little cooperation as possible to these agencies. [redacted]
refused to advise Agents of the names of [redacted]
[redacted]

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Investigation at [redacted] failed to reveal that
[redacted] was living at that address

Referral/Consult

NI 162-49
LGG:EF

Referral/Consult

On 6/14/63, [redacted] confidentially advised this office that at a [redacted] meeting June 13, 1963, he overheard [redacted] say to [redacted] that he was not too sure of COVELLI's story regarding the abduction of COVELLI because it has been changed several times and [redacted] was becoming quite doubtful [redacted]

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On 6/14/63 this informant advised that he had been in a conversation with FRANCIS STELLON and [redacted] both local hoodlums, on Wednesday, June 12, 1963. He stated that among the subjects they discussed was the alleged abduction of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI by FBI agents.

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He stated that both of these individuals expressed the opinion that they did not believe the FBI was responsible for this and that they further stated that they believed COVELLI probably perpetrated this abduction himself in order to take the pressure off him. He advised that COVELLI knew that he was under intense pressure by the FBI with regard to the abduction and murder of ANTHONY BIERNAT and that COVELLI may have received some information to the effect that the FBI was getting close to solving BIERNAT's murder and felt he was about to be picked up and questioned again about this crime. He further stated that COVELLI may have felt that by perpetrating this abduction himself he could gain public sympathy and thereby take some of the pressure off him. He advised that this seems to be the general observations among other hoodlums in the Milwaukee area.

The informant stated that the hoodlum element who have been under considerable pressure by the FBI and other law enforcement agencies since BIERNAT's abduction and murder are quite concerned right now about this new incident since the FBI is now going around again re-interviewing all of the hoodlums and applying additional pressure. He stated that they had hoped that the pressure which had been applied as a result of the BIERNAT murder would soon let up and that they could again start to operate in their old ways but added that this recent COVELLI incident has opened up that "old wound" and they don't like it. He advised that if COVELLI did perpetrate this abduction the syndicate might take some action against him for bringing about this additional pressure which they had hoped would let up.

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Informant stated that [redacted] who is COVELLI's attorney, is an egotist and loves publicity. He further stated that he would not be surprised if [redacted] had a hand in setting up this abduction for COVELLI in order to get publicity for himself, sympathy for COVELLI, and to embarrass the FBI.

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MI 162-49

On 6/8/63 [redacted] PCI, advised SAs [redacted] and [redacted] that WILLIAM COVELLI, AL ALBANA, and [redacted] in Kenosha and that [redacted] Kenosha PD, was involved or knew of the particular event. She also stated that on 6/7/63 [redacted] was talking with [redacted] and they were talking about [redacted] and made the remark that it wouldn't only be [redacted]

[redacted]

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Informant stated that [redacted] WILLIAM COVELLI, AL ALBANA, [redacted] and three detectives from the Kenosha PD, were in [redacted] talking and then they all went next door into [redacted] building and apparently had a long discussion as they were in the [redacted] office a considerable time.

Informant stated that she has no personal knowledge as to who could have abducted COVELLI and that COVELLI, ALBANA, and the [redacted] have not ventured any opinions to her.

Informant stated that COVELLI was staying close to the Kenosha area and has been [redacted]

[redacted]

Informant also advised that [redacted] who is WILLIAM COVELLI's [redacted] is the person in charge of [redacted] and that investigating agents would not receive any cooperation from him so far as the West Side gang in Kenosha was concerned.

Informant stated that [redacted]
[redacted] of the American State Bank, Kenosha,

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his. was the financial backer of 60 or 70 taverns in Kenosha. She stated that [redacted] used to punch ANTHONY BIERNAT's jukeboxes whenever a new tavern was opened in his area. As a result of this backing of BIERNAT friction developed with the West Side gang and COVELLI became quite upset. This friction is not new between [redacted] and COVELLI as it is alleged to date back to "RED" COVELLI, WILLIAM COVELLI's father, who was the victim of a gangland slaying in Kenosha sometime back. Currently the [redacted]

On 6/12/63 [redacted] PCI, contacted by SAs [redacted] [redacted] advised that she does not know anything about what happened to COVELLI and has not been on the [redacted]

She stated that she has no knowledge of what happened other than what she has read in the local newspapers.

Informant stated that [redacted] and as a result she has had no connection with COVELLI, ALBANA, [redacted]

Informant was of the opinion that COVELLI pulled it off himself just to take the heat off of himself and others as a result of the BIERNAT murder in January.

On 6/12/63 [redacted] PCI, advised SAs [redacted] [redacted] that she has overheard two separate conversations between Italians in Kenosha and they stated that they thought it was part of the Chicago mob that had abducted COVELLI and that they were testing COVELLI's ability to hold up under pressure. [redacted]

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Enclosed herewith are two copies of an editorial from the 6/14/63 issue of the Kenosha (Wis.) News which points out that it is preposterous to think that any law enforcement agency would be behind COVELLI's alleged abduction. The editorial closes with the following, "Put your faith in law enforcement and due process of law, which is where it belongs during the long investigation which could solve the BIERMAT killing."

LEADS

CHICAGO DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois:

1. Will, at the Executive Auto Lease Company, 6501 Northwestern Avenue, determine to whom cars were rented or released during the five days prior to COVELLI's abduction on 6/6/63; will also determine what rental or lease agreements [redacted] of Milwaukee has and has had with this concern, checking for the past two years if records are available.
2. Will interview selected hoodlums concerning the COVELLI abduction in view of information that the abduction car bore Illinois license plates and in view of information that the gamblers in northern Illinois are angry at the Kenosha crowd because of the official heat generated by the BIERMAT murder which has allegedly curtailed the gambling business.
3. Will interview selected criminal intelligence informants for information on the COVELLI abduction including the persons involved, the cause, and the consequences.
4. Will immediately inform Milwaukee if any highly confidential sources furnish information in this matter; will furnish such information immediately and on a continuing basis.

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MI 162-49

MILWAUKEE DIVISION

At Milwaukee, Wisconsin:

1. Consideration has been given to requesting Bureau permission to utilize highly confidential sources on [] and COVELLI; however, with prosecutive potentials and contemplated Grand Jury action in view this is being deferred.
2. Milwaukee will bring up to date the investigation on all hoodlums on which cases are pending; emphasize developing prosecutive potentials, and preparing material for utilization by the Grand Jury which will involve in some instances additional interviews with these hoodlums.
3. Milwaukee will do extensive investigation into background and activities of [] including checking bank accounts and Government service record, developing any prosecutable violation involving [] or any other Federal violation such as income tax matters. Will also attempt to develop any local or state violations by [] as well as exploring possibilities of his []
[]
4. Will interview JOHN C. RIZZO who by telephone stated that he would appear at the Milwaukee Office by appointment during the coming week.
5. Will locate and interview FRANCIS STELLON who has been absent from his home.
6. Will continue to maintain close contact with all logical informants relative to this matter.

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

KENOSHA NEWS

Friday, June 14, 1963

Page 4

Rely on the due process of law

Restlessness with things as they are is understandable in a period such as the present.

The community has on its hands an unsolved abduction-murder of a reputable citizen, plus a report of another kidnaping linked to the first.

These circumstances hardly encourage anything but a feeling of public alarm.

The FBI has absolutely denied the report it was involved in the second kidnaping and questioning of a Kenoshan.

Common sense tells us it is preposterous that any law enforcement agency would be behind such action. How far does intimidation go in any court? No place.

If the second kidnaping were the work of a citizen vigilante group, then, too, the due process of law is defeated.

Kenoshans must concentrate on the knowledge that the Department of Justice and the police and sheriff departments are working in concert toward the solution of the Anthony Biernat murder, and also toward the solution of the William Covell snatch. It's no secret that the investigation is being vigorously pursued by all law enforcement agencies.

The community has achieved considerable notoriety, but one must consider that the heat's on crime and corruption in both Milwaukee and Chicago and that both these towns like nothing better than to switch the spotlight to Kenosha.

Put your faith in law enforcement and due process of law, which is where it belongs during the long investigation which could solve the Biernat killing.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A4 Kenosha News

Kenosha

Wisconsin

Date: June 14, 1963

Edition: Latest

Author:

Editor:

Title: F. Lee Hancock

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Milwaukee

CC SENT Bureau

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI - MILWAUKEE	

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

WORKING COPIES!
NOT TO BE SERIALIZED!

DATE: 6/12/63

TO : SAC (162-49)

FROM : SA ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.
AR.

The following teams are scheduled for interviews in this matter at Kenosha, Wisconsin on 6/12/63:

1. [REDACTED]

4. LE GRAND and [REDACTED]

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2. [REDACTED] and MACDONALD

5. [REDACTED] and REED

3. THOMPSON and [REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED]

The following assignments of interviews are being made for each team:

Team Number 1

FRED COVELLI

AL ALBANA

JOHN RIZZO

PCI's [REDACTED]

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Team Number 2

FRANK BARCA, 2413-34th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin, operator at Advance Novelty, 5227-13th Avenue, truck driver, American Motors

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PETER BARCA, 1230 Sheridan Road

[REDACTED]

Team Number 3

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of deceased

[REDACTED] Kenosha, suspect in BIERNAT case

[REDACTED] friend of BIERNAT

Team Number 4

[REDACTED] Kenosha, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Kenosha, operator
of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Team Number 5

Mrs. WILLIAM COVELLI

DOMINIC PRINCIPE, 4027-7th Avenue, Kenosha

[redacted] and employees at Greco's Restaurant

[redacted] witness of abduction

Team Number 6

[redacted] close to RIZZO, Kenosha

[redacted]

[redacted] Kenosha, friend of BIERNAT

1. Lake Zurich
2. [redacted] 349
Carlyle N. REED
M/S

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (162-49)

DATE: June 17, 1963

FROM : ASAC

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA
IGA

I received a telephone call from Section Chief THOMAS J. MC ANDREWS at 4:30 P.M. on 6-13-63, at which time he inquired as to whether we have a Bureau car with license Q9131. He was advised that we do have such an automobile, and it was pointed out to him that the use of this car was the subject of a teletype to the Bureau in this case dated 6-11-63.

He stated that Senator PROXMIRE had made an inquiry of the Bureau concerning this license number. He desired to know whether the automobile with this license number had been utilized in surveilling COVELLI. He was told that as far as I know, it had been used approximately five weeks ago on an occasion of COVELLI's being surveilled from Kenosha to Milwaukee and return. It was also pointed out to MC ANDREWS that the automobile with this license number was used continually in Kenosha until a few weeks ago, and had been used on a road trip in the Kenosha area just prior to the COVELLI abduction allegation. He was told that this license ~~number~~ had been removed from the car, and the car has not been used since the COVELLI abduction. Mr. McANDREWS was told that there had been a slight indication of possibly some inquiry being made of Senator PROXMIRE; however, in view of the fact the Bureau had been apprised of the significance of automobiles used in hoodlum investigations, it was not deemed necessary to relate this to the Bureau as it could not be analyzed that any inquiry would be made of PROXMIRE. Mr. McANDREWS stated that I probably should have told them of the possibility concerning PROXMIRE; however, it did not create any problem and that this would take care of the matter.

After talking with Mr. MC ANDREWS, Ass't. Director EVANS spoke to me, at which time he pointed out the feeling at the Bureau is that the Milwaukee office is not vigorously pursuing the COVELLI matter. He insisted it was absolutely necessary that the office exert pressure on the hoodlum element by interviewing

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JWL:mcs

(2) *ms*

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SAC <i>POS</i>	

Memo to SAC (162-49)
6-17-63

these individuals and not letting up in any way in our efforts to create a situation whereby the hoodlums would exert so much pressure on COVELLI until he would wish he had never ever come forth with his alleged abduction story. It was pointed out to Mr. EVANS that we were giving this preferred, vigorous attention; that Agents had been interviewing hoodlums during the day and night; that in attempting to locate many of the hoodlums we had gone to their homes, places of business, known hangouts, neighborhoods, etc., which had certainly aroused a bit of concern among the hoodlum element. Mr. EVANS used as an example of what should be done a situation whereby an Agent should go into a restaurant or bar and announce himself as an FBI Agent, interrogate hoodlums under such conditions of whom we had an interest ~~in~~. He was told such had been done and even more vigorous approaches taken. Mr. EVANS said, after discussing the matter with me, that it appeared as though we were doing everything reasonable in this approach; however it appeared that it was just a matter of not reporting to the Bureau complete details which would be of value to them.

It was pointed out to Mr. EVANS that the summary teletypes and radiograms provided daily were intended to give the Bureau an idea of the type action being taken and the number of people being interrogated. He said this had not been sufficient for them to be assured that everything was being done, and instructed that an airtel containing full details of investigation conducted be submitted to the Bureau no later than Saturday, 6-15-63, in order that something could be prepared at the Bureau on Monday, 6-17-63.

It was noted to Mr. EVANS that there had been numerous difficulties in pursuing this investigation, particularly the efforts of [] to get publicity on a license number, and since this had not been accomplished it could be analyzed that our efforts were being reasonably successful due to the fact that [] had now gotten Senator PROXMIRE in on the act, after his efforts had failed in Milwaukee. I pointed out to Mr. EVANS that an analysis of our effectiveness would indicate that our efforts were getting some results, possibly based on this action by []

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Another difficulty encountered, as pointed out to Mr. EVANS, was the fact that the Kenosha Police Department had not been at all cooperative, and that on the night before, two Agents, while in Kenosha, were asked to identify themselves and it was necessary for them to go to the police station in

Memo to SAC (162-49)
6-17-63

order to satisfy the identification. He was told this had been straightened out with the police department, but was an indication of some of the difficulties we were encountering. Mr. EVANS said he knew there were problems brought about by the Kenosha Police Department, and commented no further concerning this.

Mr. EVANS concluded by stating we must continually give this matter thorough attention and no let-up against the hoodlums should occur. He said that the possibility of a Federal Grand Jury here should be of assistance.

He said that the Bureau wanted to help in every possible way in this situation and that we should consult them when any problems arise.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (162-49)

DATE: 6/14/63

FROM : SA William J. Higgins, Jr.

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA

On 6/7/63 while at the WILLIAM COVELLI residence at 7827 36th Ave., Kenosha, for purposes of taking elimination fingerprints from the COVELLIS, and, [redacted] Mr. COVELLI and his Attorney, [redacted] made available the following described articles of clothing which had allegedly been worn by COVELLI when abducted the night before in Kenosha:

1. One pair trousers - Botany "500" - blue
2. One White shirt - size 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Penney's short sleeves
3. One pair shoes - black Florsheim, size 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ C

The above articles were taken from Mr. COVELLI inasmuch as there were soil marks on all of the objects; and, also to preclude any possibility of criticism on the part of Atty. [redacted] if such are his intentions.

On 6/7/63 Personal Identification cards were used in securing the elimination fingerprints of WILLIAM COVELLI, ELEANOR VIRGINIA COVELLI, and [redacted] all of whom have had access and use to the 1962 Dodge Dart 4door station wagon, VIN 4522143887, 1963 Wis. License E84-821, registered to Kenosha Vending Co., Kenosha, Wis., under Title #E28E1558.

On 6/11/63 the elimination fingerprints of [redacted] [redacted], Kenosha, Wis. friend of [redacted] were secured as he was a passenger in the COVELLI Dodge Dart during the early evening of June 5, 1963.

162-49-140

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 17 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

La Grand
(who has latent pls handle with ends)

F B I

Date: 6/17/63

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plain text or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO SAC, KANSAS CITY

FROM SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, IGA. OO. MILWAUKEE.

A NINETEEN SIXTY-THREE CHEVROLET SEDAN BEARING MISSOURI LICENSE B C TWO FIVE EIGHT TWO, REGISTERED TO JOE S. AMADOR, FOUR ONE ZERO NINE BLUE RIDGE, KANSAS CITY, MO., HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN MILWAUKEE, WIS. FOR THE LAST FEW DAYS WITH THE OCCUPANT IN CONTACT WITH FRANK BALISTRIERI, BOSS OF THE OUTFIT MILWAUKEE, WIS.

SUTEL INFO ON AMADOR AND CURRENT LOCATION OF JOE GURERA, KC FILE NINE TWO DASH THREE TWO SIX. ALSO ASCERTAIN IF LOCATION OF JOE GURERA KNOWN ON JUNE SIX AND JUNE SEVEN LAST.

1 - 162-49
1 - 92-257
1 - 94-316

APL/kaj
(3)

162-49-141

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 5 48 P M Per C.J.F

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
June 17, 1963

WILLIAM COVELLI
INTERSTATE GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

At about 4:00 AM, June 7, 1963, [] Attorney for WILLIAM COVELLI, called SAC PAUL H. STODDARD by telephone to advise that his client had been kidnapped on the previous evening and released some hours later. He said COVELLI told him that two FBI Agents had kidnapped him. [] said there was no indication of interstate transportation, but STODDARD said it appeared there might have been an impersonation involved. Therefore, arrangements were made for immediate interview of COVELLI. [] insisted he be present at the time his client was interviewed.

[] also informed he wanted to pick up [] Milwaukee Police Department Detective, who has been detached from the department to work for the John Doe inquiry which has been in progress in Milwaukee for the past year. [] was informed by SAC STODDARD the FBI would conduct its own investigations and would interview COVELLI, and any business that [] had with HANGARD would have to be conducted separately. Thereafter, SAC STODDARD and Agents ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND and RICHARD C. THOMPSON proceeded to Kenosha where COVELLI was first interviewed at his home. After the scope of the matter had been ascertained, the following signed statement was taken from COVELLI at the Kenosha Resident Agency:

The remainder of MI copy of this Letterhead Memo is the same as serial 107, pages 2-13, and therefore only this page was made up for MI copy. The informants and leads were deleted.

2-WALTER BARNES, Departmental Attorney
1-Milwaukee (162-49)

APL/jah

(3) *[Signature]*

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI; it is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

AUSA

7/12/63

162-49-142

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
June 17, 1963

WILLIAM COVELLI
Interstate Gambling Activities

The following is a comprehensive account of all investigation conducted concerning the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI subsequent to the information set forth in the first memorandum.

NEIGHBORHOODS AND ADDITIONAL WITNESSES

Neighborhoods at Point Where
Covelli was Released by Alleged
Abductors, 60th Street and 60th
Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin

b6
b7C

The following persons were interviewed with negative results on June 7, 1963, by SA [redacted] All stated they were asleep between 12:01 AM and 3:00 AM on June 7, 1963 and were not awakened or otherwise disturbed by any unusual occurrences in the area:

Two copies of the airtel dated 6/15/63 beginning with page 2 were attached to the above and supplied to Departmental Attorney BARNES on 6/17/63. The following changes, however, were made in this document: Page 78, para. 4, was changed to delete the words "PCI [redacted] of Kenosha" and substituting therefore the words, "An informant.....".

Pages 89-94 containing information from informants and leads in this matter were deleted.

2-BARNES
1-MI (162-49)
APL/jah
(3)
[Signature]

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1 cc - AUSA [redacted]

7/12/63

b6
b7C

162-49-143

P. O. Box 663
Milwaukee 1, Wisconsin
June 17, 1963

Mr. Walter Barnes,
Departmental Attorney,
c/o U.S. Attorney's Office,
Federal Building,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Barnes:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of a thirteen page Letterhead Memorandum and two copies of an eighty-eight page Letterhead Memorandum, containing in detail investigation to date on the alleged abduction of William Covelli, Kenosha, Wisconsin on June 6, 1963.

Information is being consolidated on the individuals who might be considered for subpoena before the Federal Grand Jury in connection with the abduction of William Covelli and the murder of Anthony J. Biernat. This information will include data, which it is believed, these individuals can supply to the Federal Grand Jury if they are willing.

The following individuals will be considered in this respect:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Frank Balistreri, present boss of the "Outfit" *Holmes*

The following individuals are "muscle men of the outfit":

Steve De Salvo

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

Enclosure-4

OK
2 - Barnes
1 - Milwaukee (162-49)
APH/jah (3) 1-cc H43A [Redacted] 7/12/63

162-49-144

Joseph Gurera

Francis Stolloh

Buster Dalestrera

Haltzman
Reed

[Redacted]

Additional persons who should have information on these matters are:

b6
b7C

Albert Albana

[Redacted]

William Covelli

Thompson
Thompson

August Maniaci

Dominic Principe

[Redacted]

Fred Covelli

John Charles Rizzo

[Redacted]

Reed

[Redacted]

Kenosha, Wisconsin

Haltzman

[Redacted]

Kenosha Police Department

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Reed

[Redacted]

This list is not all inclusive and other names and data will be supplied.

In addition to the Biornat and Covelli matter, it is believed the Federal Grand Jury may wish to inquire into the gambling operations of the outfit which is known as "the office". In connection with it the following individuals should be considered for subpoena:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

The three above were arrested by the Milwaukee Police Department and Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office in [redacted] when "the office" was operated at [redacted] Milwaukee.

The following individuals are known by more current investigation to have been connected with "the office" and its present operations:

Sam Cefalu [redacted]

[redacted] also known as [redacted]

In addition to the above there are other hoodlums in Milwaukee, Wisconsin who have done business at "the office" whose names and background will be supplied. The possible betterers who might be considered for early subpoena in connection with this matter are:

[redacted]

Le [redacted]
Le [redacted]

An analysis is also being made of the material available which might indicate violations of the Anti-Racketeering Act through intimidation of persons active in the tavern, restaurant, pinball, juke box and other businesses by individuals connected with the outfit. This is being done in consideration of the opinion expressed by you in a conference held June 17, 1963, to the effect that the Anti-Racketeering Act may be violated if hoodlums force their way into businesses having any connection with interstate commerce.

Further memoranda containing information which each of the individuals listed above may be expected to possess, will be supplied at the earliest possible time.

Very truly yours,

PAUL H. STODDARD
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 6/18/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM: *AS* SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) P 181615

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA. IGA. OO: MILWAUKEE

RE MILWAUKEE RAD JUNE SEVENTEEN LAST.

[REDACTED] FAILED TO APPEAR IN COUNTY
COURT, MILWAUKEE, WISC., BECAUSE OBTAINING MARRIAGE LICENSE TO

[REDACTED] ATTORNEY [REDACTED] MOVED TO DISMISS ACTION OF

[REDACTED] ON GROUND

POLICE MADE ILLEGAL ENTRY. [REDACTED]

PCI, STATED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MILWAUKEE.

EFFORTS CONTINUING TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW JOHN RIZZO AND
FRANK STELLOH.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL BEING PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENTAL
ATTORNEY WALTER BARNES AND CLOSE LIAISON MAINTAINED WITH HIM.

RCT:bs
(1) *[initials]*

162-49-145

b6
b7Cb6
b7C
b7D

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 12:22 P M Per WCP

F B I

Date: 6/17/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) 171927

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, IGA. OO. MILWAUKEE.

RE MILWAUKEE AIRTEL TO BUREAU JUNE FIFTEEN LAST.

[REDACTED] ADVISED TODAY THAT NONE OF HOODLUM
ELEMENT BELIEVED FBI RESPONSIBLE FOR COVELLI'S ABDUCTION NOR
THAT CHICAGO SYNDICATE TESTED COVELLI BECAUSE THEY WOULD HAVE
KILLED HIM IF THEY HAD ANY SUSPICION. HOODLUMS BELIEVED
COVELLI SET UP ABDUCTION HIMSELF TO REMOVE SUSPICION FROM HIM.
INFORMANT STATES THAT IN CONVERSATION WITH [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] KNOWN ASSOCIATE WILLIAM COVELLI AND JOHN
RIZZO, AND [REDACTED] AT FORMER KENOSHA, WIS. GAME, TODAY
STATED HE LAST SAW COVELLI IN APRIL LAST AND DENIES KNOWING
ANYTHING OF ABDUCTION NOR ANY WHO MIGHT HAVE DESIRED ABDUCTION

APL/kaj
(1)

① Holzman
② La Grande
③ Thompson

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent 4:43 P M Per WCP

162-49-146

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

MI 162-49

OF COVELLI.

[REDACTED] PCI, KENOSHA, TODAY ADVISED OBTAINED
NOTHING FURTHER.

CONFERENCE HELD TODAY WITH DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEYS WALTER
BARNES AND PHILIP WHITE OF ORGANIZED CRIME SECTION AND DETAILS
CONCERNING COVELLI ABDUCTION AND INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED
SUPPLIED TO THEM. THESE ATTORNEYS ARE FORMULATING ORDER OF
GRAND JURY ACTION AND LIST OF HOODLUMS WHO SHOULD BE BROUGHT
BEFORE GRAND JURY HAS BEEN SUPPLIED TO THEM. INFORMATION
TENDING TO ESTABLISH POSSIBILITY OF VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW
ON PART OF THESE INDIVIDUALS BEING BROUGHT UP TO DATE FOR USE
OF DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEYS, AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON ATTORNEY

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7Db6
b7C

- 2 -

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI Cleared In Kenosha 'Kidnap' Case

An investigation into a complaint by a Kenosha vending machine distributor that he was abducted by two men who at first said they were FBI agents, has shown that no FBI men were involved in the alleged abduction, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said Monday.

In a letter to Senator Proxmire (Dem., Wis.) Hoover said: "I have checked into this situation and have determined that no personnel of this bureau were involved."

Hoover referred to the complaint by William (Wheeler) Covelli, 43, owner of the Kenosha Vending Co., that he was abducted June 6 and questioned at gun point by two men who at first said they were FBI agents and later described themselves as "friends of the FBI." Covelli reported that he was released unharmed.

Hoover pointed out in his letter to Proxmire that since the alleged abductors reportedly claimed to be FBI agents, the FBI was investigating the case because it is a federal law violation to impersonate federal agents.

"I want to assure you that this bureau (the FBI) is conducting an unbiased, thorough, aggressive investigation of this matter in order to fully resolve the conflicting statements allegedly made to Covelli by the persons involved who claimed they were FBI agents," Hoover said.

Proxmire said that he contacted the FBI office in Washington, D. C., last week after he received an "inquiry" on the alleged abduction. Proxmire refused to say who made the inquiry.

"I am satisfied that this matter is being investigated very closely," Proxmire said.

Covelli complained to both the FBI and the Kenosha police department that he was abducted from his parked car about 10:30 p.m. June 6 by two men who said they were FBI agents. He said he was handcuffed, blindfolded by a sweater drown over his head and driven to the burial site of slain jukebox distributor Anthony J. Biernat.

(Biernat was abducted from the Kenosha North Shore line depot parking lot Jan. 7. His body was recovered from a lime sprinkled grave in the basement of a vacant farmhouse on the abandoned Bong air force base site Jan. 27. He had been beaten to death.)

Covelli said the men put a gun to his head and asked him a number of times—"Who killed Biernat?" He said he told the men he did not know. About 2 a.m. June 7, Covelli said, the men released him in Kenosha near his car, which had been moved to a parking spot near the county garage.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A3 Milwaukee Sentinel
Milwaukee
Wisconsin

Date: 6/18/63
Edition: Morning
Author:
Editor: Harry Sonnehorn
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Milwaukee

cc sent Bureau

162-449-147

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 19 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

OKS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/18/63

b7D

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

☐ CI

☐ SI

b6
b7C

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

b6
b7C
b7D

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

PCI

Dates of Contact

6/12/63

Titles and File #s on which contacted

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka IGA

162-49 [REDACTED]

JOSEPH GURERA, aka AR

92-257 (HOLTZMAN)

CIP

92-145 (THOMPSON)

b6
b7C

Purpose and results of contact

☐ NEGATIVE

☒ POSITIVE

On 6/12/63 informant advised that she does not know anything about what happened to WILLIAM COVELLI and she has not been

Informant stated that she has no knowledge of what happened other than what she has read in the newspapers and heard on the radio.

Informant stated that [REDACTED] as a result she has had no connection with WILLIAM COVELLI, AL ALBANA. [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

Informant was of the opinion that COVELLI pulled the job off himself just to take the heat off of himself and others as a result of the abduction and subsequent murder of ANTHONY BIERNAT.

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

FAIR

Coverage

CIP - GAMBLING

Personal Data

1-162-49

1-92-257

1-92-145

KTb:sbt (4)

b7D

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/12/63

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

PCI

b7D

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact

5/22, 31/63; 6/8/63

Titles and File #s on which contacted

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka., IGA

162-49 [REDACTED]

JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka., AR

92-257 HOLTZMAN

JOHN CHARLES RIZZO, aka., AR

92-164 [REDACTED]

JEFF COVELLI, aka., AR

92-317

CIP

92-145 THOMPSON

ALBERT ALBANA, aka., AR

92-316

b6
b7C

Purpose and results of contact

☐ NEGATIVE

☒ POSITIVE

Informant advised that [REDACTED] who is WILLIAM COVELLI's [REDACTED] is the person in charge of the [REDACTED] and that investigating agents would not receive any cooperation from him concerning the West Side gang in Kenosha.

b6
b7C
b7D

Informant stated that COVELLI was staying close to the Kenosha area and has been [REDACTED]

In regards to JOHN RIZZO and COVELLI, she stated that they have not reopened their crap game and RIZZO has not been seen at [REDACTED] since the middle of January, 1963 when the crap game was terminated.

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

Good

Coverage

CIP; Gambling

Personal Data

162-49-149
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JUN 1 1963

① - 162-49

1 - 92-257

1 - 92-164

1 - 92-317

1 - 92-145

1 - 92-316

KTB/lmp

(7)

(Final)

Le Grand [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

MI [REDACTED]

Informant stated that [REDACTED] of the American State Bank, Kenosha, Wisconsin, was the financial backer of 60 or 70 taverns in Kenosha. She stated that [REDACTED] used to push ANTHONY BIERNAT's jukeboxes whenever a new tavern opened. As a result of this backing of BIERNAT, friction developed with the West Side gang and COVELLI became quite upset. This friction is not new between [REDACTED] and COVELLI as it is alleged to date back to "RED" COVELLI, "WEISER's" father, who was the victim of a gangland slaying back in the thirties. Currently the [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

In regards to JEFF COVELLI she stated that he has or has had a girl friend by the name of [REDACTED] who is currently working as [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] She described [REDACTED] as an attractive blonde, 5'5", 115 pounds, and very trim. She also advised that JEFF was supposed to [REDACTED]

Informant stated that the "no guts" story about "WEISER" and JEFF COVELLI wasn't true. Both have violent tempers and have assaulted persons severely in the past. [REDACTED]

She stated that on the night after TONY BIERNAT's disappearance she had made the comment [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] made some slight acknowledgment and appeared as if they had not heard anything about BIERNAT.

Concerning [REDACTED] of Racine, informant stated that he used to handle the money from the crap game and was highly trusted by both RIZZO and COVELLI. [REDACTED] and RIZZO have been bosom buddies for years. She stated that [REDACTED] has not been seen [REDACTED] in three or four months.

Informant described RIZZO as shrewd, clever, and possessing a very good mind. She stated that everything is a racket to him and that he doesn't see the legitimate side of any situation.

MI [REDACTED]

b7D

Concerning AL ALBANA, informant stated that he was back in the money now and his sudden wealth is unexplained. ALBANA

[REDACTED]

Informant stated that a man by the name of [REDACTED] (LNU) who lives [REDACTED], Kenosha, has been seen with COVELLI [REDACTED]. Informant stated this same man used to be a constant visitor to the 56th Street crap game operated by RIZZO and COVELLI.

Informant advised that on 11/11/62 at 5:30 a.m. four men assaulted [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Kenosha, Wisconsin. These men were identified as [REDACTED] (phonetic) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (phonetic), [REDACTED] all being from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. These men were driving a 1962 or 1963 white Pontiac Convertible, Wisconsin license number [REDACTED]. Informant stated that these men had [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] being taken care of with the Kenosha PD. Informant provided this information as possibly being pertinent with the ANTHONY BIERNAT abduction murder case.

Informant stated that on Sunday, June 2, sometime after 8 p.m. "WEISER" COVELLI was [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and came back two or three hours later.

Informant also advised that [REDACTED] had quit working for COVELLI as [REDACTED] and that "WEISER" COVELLI and [REDACTED] were now handling the Kenosha Vending Company route collections. She said that [REDACTED] had allegedly quit because he could not hold down two jobs.

Informant said that COVELLI, ALBANA, and [REDACTED] recently happened in Kenosha and that [REDACTED]

MI [REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED] Kenosha PD, was involved or knew of the particular event. She also said that on 6/7/63 [REDACTED] was talking with [REDACTED] and they were talking about [REDACTED] and made the remark that it wouldn't only be [REDACTED] (Informant said that this was the only part of the conversation that she was able to pick up [REDACTED])

b6
b7C
b7D

Informant also said that [REDACTED] "WEISER" COVELLI, AL ALBANA, [REDACTED] and three detectives from the Kenosha PD were in [REDACTED] talking and then they all went next door into the [REDACTED] in this block.

Optional Form No. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: 6/19/63

TO: TO ALL AGENTS WITH CRIMINAL
ASSIGNMENTS, Milwaukee, Racine,
and Kenosha

FROM: *AK* SAC (162-49)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.
IGA

WILLIAM COVELLI was allegedly abducted on June 6, 1963 at about 10:30 p.m. and released at about 2:00 a.m. the next morning. COVELLI lives in Kenosha and was abducted in Kenosha.

All agents receiving this memo are instructed to contact their CIs and PCIs concerning this alleged abduction as soon as possible and to submit negative results by routing slip to file 162-49. Any positive results should be set out on an FD-209 but should also be orally called to the attention of the SAC and agents coordinating this matter.

It is absolutely imperative that each informant be contacted and record of contact be made as outlined above.

1 - Each Criminal Agent

① - 162-49

1 - 66-11

Office Memo No. 141

RCT:APL/lmp

(32) *eng*

162-49-150

Optional Form No. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: 6/19/63

TO: FILE (162-49)
FROM: *AS* SAC, MILWAUKEE
SUBJECT: */* WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.
IGA

The Bureau has instructed that a list of hoodlums be prepared and that pertinent information concerning them be set out for the assistance of Departmental Attorney WALTER BARNES who is studying the prospects of a Grand Jury investigation into this and related matters.

In accordance with these instructions a list of hoodlums who may be called before the Grand Jury is being prepared and individual agents will be given assignments to prepare letterhead memoranda pertaining to them.

These letterhead memoranda should be prepared in accordance with the form attached hereto.

① - 162-49
1 - 92-257
RCT: APL/lmp
(30) *imp*

162-49-151

[REDACTED]
MI 162-49

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6
b7C

[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

BACKGROUND

Here set out Subject's occupation, summary data concerning his arrest record and particularly convictions, also information showing his associations with the hoodlum syndicate, and briefly any past activities which will be of assistance to the Assistant AG. This information may be in synopsis form and sources need not be quoted.

DATA OF ASSISTANCE IN
QUESTIONING THE SUBJECT

Break this down into four parts as follows: (1) Re the BIERNAT murder; (2) Re the COVELLI abduction; (3) Re gambling activities - bookmaking and dice and card games; (4) Payoffs or shakedowns. In compiling the information to be set out in this section bear in mind that the information is to be used as a basis for questioning the Subject at a Grand Jury session. Except in unusual situations it will not be necessary to quote sources. Where specific information is available, it should be set out in specific details so that the Assistant AG can use this as the basis for specific questions. However, the information need not be confined to such specific things, as general information which will provoke logical questions should also be included. Bear in mind that each memorandum serves to provoke logical questions which may elicit information and evidence from the various individuals when they are questioned for the Grand Jury. Under the general information might be included such things as associations, gambling tendencies and reputations which the individual files do not support with specific facts, incidents, etc.

* * * * *

Copies of letterhead memos are as follows: 2 - WALTER BARNES, Departmental Attorney; 1 - USA, Milwaukee; 3 - Bureau; 4 - Milwaukee (2 - 162-49; 1 - 92-257; 1 - file on person in question).

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (162-49)

DATE: 6/18/63

FROM : SAC PAUL H. STODDARD

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
AR

At 3:45 p.m. 6/18/63 [redacted] attorney for above individual, telephonically contacted me and advised he was aware that agents were making inquiries concerning him and he wanted this office to know that he was available for interview at any time and that he would be in the city today and tomorrow. He further advised me that a number of his clients had been contacted by agents and some had refused to answer any questions. They have done this on the basis of his advice as their attorney.

[redacted] desired to know what progress had been made on the case in connection with his client WILLIAM COVELLI. [redacted] was advised this is a pending investigation and information obtained by the FBI was entirely confidential and also presented to a USA.

b6
b7C

He thereafter stated that again should this office desire any information concerning his background, his activities and his associations he would be very happy to do so commensurate with his position as an attorney.

[redacted] was advised that should we desire to interview him we would be in touch with him.

PHS:mg
(2)

162-49-152

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 20 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

Le Grand
Thompson
[redacted]
d.f.g.

advise
all agents
working
case

DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

6/19/63

SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) * ATTN: FBI LABORATORY
MECHANICAL SECTION

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.
IGA
OO: Milwaukee

Enclosed under separate cover is one pack of PX 523 Kodak film containing exposures taken by SA [redacted] of tire tracks and the locale in a farmyard at Rural Route 1, Kansasville, Wisconsin.

b6
b7C

These pictures were taken in the farmyard to which WILLIAM COVELLI was allegedly abducted on 6/6/63.

Also enclosed under separate cover are 2 plaster casts of tire tracks found at the scene and 1 plaster cast of small parallel markings found in the basement of the farmhouse.

It is requested in addition to positives which may be developed for use of the Bureau in making examination, that two positives of each negative be supplied to the Milwaukee Office.

It is requested that the FBI Laboratory advise the Milwaukee Office the description of the type of tires which left these markings and the type of cars on which they may have been used.

3 - Bureau (162-777)
1 - Package Copy (RM)
1 - Milwaukee (162-49)
APL:jb
(5)

9

162-49-153

6/19/63

AIRTEL

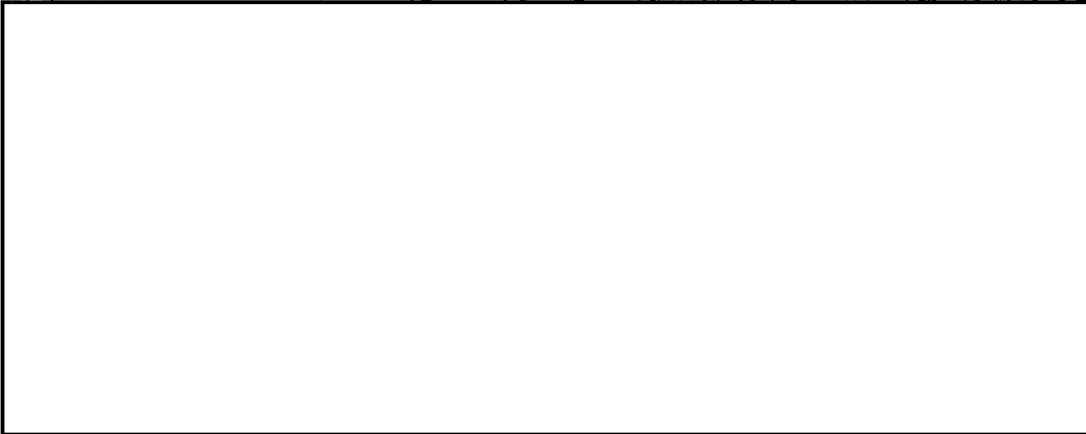
AIRMAIL

To: Director, FBI (162-777)
From: SAC, Milwaukee (162-49) P
Subject: WILLIAM COVELLI
HOODLUM ACTIVITIES
MILWAUKEE DIVISION

Re Bureau radiogram 6/12/63 and Milwaukee radiogram of 6/17/63.

SAAG WALTER BARNES and PHILIP WHITE in consultation with USA and AUSA and an Agent of this office have determined that if their superiors approve they will follow the course of action set out hereafter as to use of Federal Grand Jury in connection with captioned matter and related investigations:

1. Use the Grand Jury already impaneled, and on 7/16/63,



b3

3 Bureau (AM)
3 Milwaukee (1-92-257 JOSEPH GURERA)
(1-165-18 VERNON HILLS
COUNTRY CLUB)

JAH:bs
(6)

162-49-154

MI 162-49

b3

The Departmental Attorneys feel that the existing Grand Jury testimony of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is not sufficiently detailed as to material facts to support possible perjury action against him.

MI 162-49

Likewise, they do not feel that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] offers sufficient prospect of being able to develop ITWI violation against the persons involved. b3

They also are reluctant to call a number of witnesses necessary to fully document the BERNAT case or the number of hoodlums who might have pertinent information as to the background on COVELLI's alleged abduction. They feel that such a procedure would have attendant publicity and that such an approach does not offer any reasonable expectation of being able to return an indictment and that the Government would be put in a bad light "if they made a big splash and came up with zero." They would prefer and will so recommend a limited number of witnesses be called for the session on July 16 and thereafter a few more witnesses called in August and so forth, being ready at any time the break is discovered either through our investigative efforts or through Grand Jury proceedings to exploit such break with a full-scale Grand Jury.

To this end, the Milwaukee Office will promptly submit letterhead memoranda to the Bureau for dissemination to the Department, carbon copies to the USA, Milwaukee--such letterhead memoranda to supplement the summary report of SA HOLTZMAN and provide ready reference material to the Departmental Attorneys at such time as they desire to call any individual hoodlum before the Grand Jury.

As additional information is obtained, supplemental memoranda will be submitted.

Immediate investigation will be instituted to obtain all significant information available relative to [REDACTED] gambling activities, and investigative activity will be continued re hoodlum activities.

The Bureau will be kept fully informed of the progress of this situation.

b6
b7C

URGENT 6-19-63 7-22 PM CST GLH

TO SAC MILWAUKEE 162-49

FROM SAC KANSAS CITY 162-236

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, IGA. OO MILWAUKEE.

RE MILWAUKEE TEL JUNE SEVENTEEN LAST.

JOE SOLOMON AMADOR, [REDACTED]

b6
b7c

[REDACTED] KANSAS CITY, MO. EMPLOYED STATIONARY ENGINEER, SOUTHWEST BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY. INDICES NEGATIVE. CREDIT SATISFACTORY. ONLY ARREST RECORD IS TRAFFIC VIOLATION. CI-S UNABLE FURNISH SIGNIFICANCE OF AMADOR-S VISIT TO MILWAUKEE, IF ANY. SPOT CHECK MADE ON RESIDENCE OF JOE GURERA, JUNE SEVEN LAST, REFLECTED NOTHING UNUSUAL, HOWEVER, GURERA NOT SEEN ON THAT DATE. CI-S HAVE NO INFO CONCERNING GURERA-S ACTIVITIES PERTINENT DATES.

RUC,

END ACK PLS

MI OK FBI MI GTC

TU DISCM

*SAC Stoddard
advised by phone
BT Cobb*

162-49-155

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 19 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

LaGrand

F B I

Date: 6/19/63

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plain text or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)
FROM: *KS* SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) P
WILLIAM COVELLI, HOODLUM ACTIVITIES. MILWAUKEE DIVISION.

RE BUREAU RAD JUNE TWELVE LAST AND MILWAUKEE RAD JUNE
SEVENTEEN LAST.

DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEYS FEEL THAT TO CALL FULL SCALE GRAND
JURY EITHER ON BIERNAT OR COVELLI MATTERS AND NOT HAVE ANY CONCRETE
RESULTS WOULD PUT GOVERNMENT IN BAD LIGHT AND HOODLUMS IN GOOD LIGHT.
THEY WILL RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, LIMITED GRAND JURY ACTION ONE OR TWO
DAYS A MONTH FOR AS LONG AS NECESSARY AIMED AT KEEPING THE PRESSURE
ON HOODLUM ELEMENT WITHOUT BIG PUBLICITY REACTION AND WITH HOPE THAT
DURING ENSUING TIME, EITHER THROUGH BUREAU INVESTIGATION OR GRAND
JURY FINDINGS, A BREAK-THROUGH MIGHT BE EFFECTED AS TO ABOVE MATTERS.

INITIAL SESSION TENTATIVELY PLANNED FOR JULY SIXTEEN NEXT

WITH [REDACTED]

b3

JAH:bs
(1) *[initials]*

① *Haltzman* *[initials]*

② *Thompson* *[initials]*

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

7:06 *[initials]*

M

Per

[initials]

162-49-156

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE TWO

MORE DETAILS FOLLOW IN AIRTEL. MILWAUKEE OFFICE WILL PROMPTLY FURNISH THE BUREAU AND USA LETTERHEAD MEMORANDA RELATIVE TO INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL POSSIBLY BE CALLED LATER AND WILL CONTINUE CONCERTED EFFORTS RE ALL HOODLUMS CONNECTED WITH THIS MATTER AS WELL AS CONDUCT INVESTIGATION NECESSARY TO CONFRONT BY JULY SIXTEEN.

b3

b6
b7c

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 6/19/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) 191635

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA. IGA.

RE MI RAD JUNE EIGHTEEN INSTANT.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION DEVELOPED JUNE EIGHTEENTH:

[REDACTED] INTERVIEWED AND STATED MET

[REDACTED] IN JULY SIXTYTWO,

WHEN HE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SUBSEQUENTLY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
MAY FOURTEEN, SIXTY THREE. SHE FREQUENTLY VISITS FRIENDS IN
CHICAGO, ILL. WHERE [REDACTED] IN

ADDITION TO [REDACTED] AND THERE ON FREQUENT OCCASIONS

ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS [REDACTED] IN

MILWAUKEE, WIS. SHE DESCRIBES [REDACTED] WHICH SHE

DEFINES AS PERSON WHO TAKES GIRL TO DINNER AND SHOWS HER OFF BUT

HAS NO INTERCOURSE WITH HER. DENIES ANY SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP

WITH [REDACTED] IDENTIFIED PHOTOSTAT OF HER NOTEBOOK AS CONTAINING

APL:LMP

(1) *[Signature]*b6
b7CApproved: _____
Special Agent in ChargeSent 3:32 P M Per WCP

162-49-157

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE TWO

HER HANDWRITING AND STATES LIST OF FOUR MEN UNDER WHICH NOTATION APPEARS "REFERRED BY [REDACTED] ONE OF WHOM IS [REDACTED] OF TEAMSTER LOCAL TWO HUNDRED, WERE ALSO BUSINESS DATES WITH NO [REDACTED] INVOLVED.

[REDACTED] HAS TAKEN HER TO GALLAGHER'S RESTAURANT OWNED BY FRANK BALISTRIERI AT THE BEGINNING OF SIXTY THREE WHERE SHE HAS MET STEVE DE SALVO, BUSTER BALESTRERE, AND JOE GURERA BUT CLAIMS NOT ACQUAINTED WITH THEIR ACTIVITIES AND [REDACTED] STATES MET ANTHONY BIERNAT IN BAR OPERATED BY [REDACTED] MILWAUKEE, WIS. SOMETIME LAST YEAR BUT KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT HIS ACTIVITIES OR ANYTHING RELATING TO HIS MURDER. CLAIMS THAT SHE WAS FORMERLY EMPLOYED AS [REDACTED] CHICAGO, ILL.

[REDACTED] ONE OF PERSONS REFERRED BY [REDACTED] INTERVIEWED, STATES HIS [REDACTED] ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL NAMED IN NOTEBOOK WITH NOTATION "REFERRED BY [REDACTED] [REDACTED] REFUSED TO MAKE STATEMENT CONCERNING GIRL UNTIL HE CONTACTED [REDACTED] STATING HE DOES [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE THREE

[REDACTED] INTERVIEWED AND DENIES MEETING [REDACTED]
THROUGH [REDACTED] BUT CLAIMS HE MET HER AT JUNEAU HOTEL.

[REDACTED] TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SAC STODDARD JUNE EIGHTEEN
INSTANT STATING HE KNEW HE WAS UNDER INVESTIGATION AND WAS
AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW AND THAT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] KENOSHA SO JUNE EIGHTEEN INSTANT, HAD
[REDACTED] CONTACT COVELLI FOR PURPOSE OF
OBTAINING COMPLAINT ON ABDUCTION SO INVESTIGATION COULD BE
CONDUCTED BY KENOSHA SO WHO HAS NOT YET RECEIVED A COMPLAINT.
COVELLI TOLD [REDACTED] TO SEE HIS ATTORNEY, [REDACTED] AND
SAID HE WOULD NOT COME TO THE SO UNLESS THEY GOT A WARRANT.

[REDACTED] KENOSHA, WIS. WHO HAS
[REDACTED] STATES "I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING
ABOUT ANYTHING" AND WAS OBVIOUSLY NERVOUS AND [REDACTED]
WAS IN BACK YARD OF HOUSE. PCI [REDACTED] ADVISED TWICE
THAT [REDACTED] TOLD HER [REDACTED]

b6
b7Cb6
b7C
b7D

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)
ATTN: LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

6/19/63

SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.
IGA

OO: MILWAUKEE

Enclosed herewith are six lifts of latent fingerprints taken from a 1952 Dodge Dart Station Wagon, VIN 4522143887, Wisconsin 1963 license E84-821 belonging to WILLIAM COVELLI, 7827-36th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin who claims to have been abducted at Kenosha on June 6, 1963.

Also enclosed for elimination purposes are fingerprints on cards of the following individuals:
WILLIAM COVELLI, ELEANOR VIRGINIA COVELLI, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b6
b7C

Each of the individuals named above had access to the automobile. In view of the nature of this case it is requested that after the elimination comparison is made that the fingerprints be searched through the identification records to determine if any of these individuals have a prior criminal record.

3 - Bureau (RM) (Encls. 10)

① - Milwaukee

APL/lmp
(4) *[Signature]*

[Handwritten mark]

162-49-158

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (162-49)

DATE: 6/20/63

FROM : SAC PAUL H. STODDARD

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
AR

At 4:25 p.m. 6/20/63 [] attorney for COVELLI, called the writer and informed that WILLIAM COVELLI was going to take a Polygraph examination tomorrow. This Polygraph examination is going to be given by a [] an independent operator, whom [] stated was recommended by the Wis. Crime Laboratory. [] stated that he wanted to invite participation by the FBI to be in attendance.

b6
b7C

[] was promptly informed that we had asked COVELLI to take a Polygraph examination and since restrictions were placed on it by him and [] no further consideration was being given to it. He was also promptly advised that this office would not participate or be in attendance at any such Polygraph examination.

He stated he wanted to cooperate with the FBI and I promptly informed him he had already put a number of restrictions on this so-called cooperation. He stated that he did not want to go on the lie box in a general manner concerning the BERNAT case and his abduction and other activities but wanted it restricted strictly to the COVELLI abduction. He was informed that this was exactly what we wanted to give him but they saw fit to put restrictions on such examination; therefore, we were not interested in his activity of having an examination of this type and the conversation was terminated.

PHS:mg
(2)

162-49-159

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 20 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

① Thompson
② LaGrand
③ Holtzman

F B I

Date: 6/21/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, IGA. OO. MILWAUKEE 211615

REMIRAD JUNE TWENTY INSTANT.

MILWAUKEE HOODLUM FRANCIS STELLOH REFUSED TO ANSWER
QUESTIONS OF ANY SORT. PCIs AND CIs NEGATIVE TO DATE AS TO CAUSE
AND PERPETRATORS OF COVELLI ABDUCTION. INTERVIEWS OF SEVERAL
ITALIAN BUSINESS MEN IN KENOSHA NEGATIVE.

PCI [] NEVER HEARD OF ALLEGED ABDUCTION OF WIFE
AND DAUGHTER OF [] KENOSHA, BY SUBJECT IN NINETEEN
FIFTY-TWO, REFERRED TO IN YESTERDAY'S RADIOGRAM. []
STATED HE WAS NEVER MARRIED. ORIGINAL SOURCE OF THIS
INFORMATION, MAN NAMED [] WILL BE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED.

PCI [] ADVISED SUBJECT-S GAMBLING ASSOCIATE, JOHN
C. RIZZO, WAS ALLEGEDLY ABDUCTED BY CHICAGO HOODLUMS IN NINETEEN
FIFTYEIGHT AND RELEASED UNHARMED, BUT CAR WAS TAKEN AND PHONE
WIRES CUT. INFORMANTS AND KENOSHA AND RACINE AUTHORITIES WILL
BE CONTACTED IN AN ATTEMPT TO VERIFY.

RCT/KAJ
*[Signature]**Return to
SAC
(Sent info to KC)*

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

12:34 p

M

Per

WCP

162-49-160

b6
b7C
b7D

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE TWO

ATTORNEY [REDACTED] ADVISED SAC BY PHONE YESTERDAY THAT SUBJECT WOULD BE GIVEN LIE TEST TODAY BY INDEPENDENT CHICAGO OPERATOR NAMED [REDACTED] *asked FBI to attend examination.* [REDACTED] WAS INFORMED THIS OFFICE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY MANNER. THIS MORNING [REDACTED] *Corvelli* ADVISED SAC BY PHONE TEST WOULD NOT BE GIVEN TODAY AND HE WAS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING WITHDRAWING AS SUBJECT'S ATTORNEY.

PCI [REDACTED] WHO FURNISHED INFORMATION OF VALUE ON BIERNAT MURDER TO [REDACTED] NA, MILWAUKEE PD, LAST JANUARY, STATED SOURCE OF HIS INFORMATION ON BIERNAT MATTER [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] INFORMED THAT JOSEPH GURERA IS EXPECTED IN MILWAUKEE THIS WEEK OR NEXT, REASON UNKNOWN.

b6
b7Cb6
b7C
b7D

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M: Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (162-49)

DATE: 6/21/63

FROM : SAC PAUL H. STODDARD

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
AR

At 9:10 a.m. 6/21/63 I received a telephone call from [redacted] attorney for above captioned individual. [redacted] stated he wanted this office to know that COVELLI would not be taking a lie detector test today. He stated he wanted us to know since we might feel he is withholding results of same.

b6
b7C

[redacted] further advised that he was seriously considering withdrawing as counsel for COVELLI.

He had no further information at this time and the conversation was terminated.

PHS:mg
(2)

162-49-161

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 21 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

Thompson

6/21/63

AIRTEL

REGULAR MAIL

TO: SAC, CHICAGO
FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) (P)
SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA
OO: MILWAUKEE

Re Milwaukee airtel to Chicago 5/8/63.

Discontinue investigation reference airtel of vending machines
purchased by [redacted] doing business at [redacted]
[redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin.

b6
b7C

2 - Chicago

(1) - Milwaukee

KTB/lmp

(3) *lmp*

[Handwritten initials]

162-49-162

6/20/63

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO : SAC, KANSAS CITY (162-236)
FROM : SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) - P -
SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA
OO: Milwaukee

Re Kansas City teletype 6/19/63.

During the time JOSEPH FRANK GIBERA lived in Milwaukee, he and STEVE DE SALVO

b6
b7C
b7D

A reliable PCI has advised that a man presumed to be JOE SOLOMON AMADOR was recently seen in the company of snydicate leaders in Milwaukee. This man is described as follows: Age 50, 5'5", heavy paunchy build, dark hair - bald on top, bulging eyes, Italian looking.

LEADS

THE KANSAS CITY DIVISION

At Kansas City, Missouri

1. Will contact [redacted] or other logical administrative personnel of the [redacted] to determine (a) whether [redacted]

2 - Kansas City (AM)
3 - Milwaukee (162-49)
(1 - 92-257) (1 - 94-316)

RCT/kaj
(5)

Thompson

162-49-163

MI 162-49

2. When AMADOR returns to Kansas City, will interview him concerning the purpose of his trip to Milwaukee.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (162-49)

DATE: 6/19/63

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.
AR

One copy of the FD-302 regarding interview of [REDACTED]
on 3/5/63 by SA [REDACTED] is being placed in
MI file 92-164.

b6
b7C

EFF:EF
(2)

1 cc - 92-164

162-49-164

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 20 1963	
FBI - NEW YORK	

[Signature]

F B I

Date: 6/20/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)
FROM SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) 201551
WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, IGA. OO. MILWAUKEE.

RE MI RAD JUNE NINETEEN INSTANT.

HOODLUMS JOHN C. RIZZO AND [REDACTED] DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF
ABDUCTION. [REDACTED] ALSO DENIED HAVING INFORMATION
AND STATED THAT HE DOUBTED COVELLI'S STORY.

[REDACTED] WHOSE NAME FOUND IN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ADDRESS BOOK PHONED AGENT SAYING HE CHECKED WITH
[REDACTED] AND DETERMINED THAT THE GIRL HE REFERRED TO IN
PERSONAL INTERVIEW REPORTED IN YESTERDAY'S RADIOGRAM, WAS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WHOM HE MET AT A BAR. IN YESTERDAY'S PERSONAL INTERVIEW
IN DESCRIBING THIS GIRL, HE GAVE ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF [REDACTED]
IN PHONE CALL [REDACTED] ALSO SAID HE DID NOT KNOW [REDACTED] BUT
[REDACTED] TOLD HIM HE GAVE [REDACTED] NAME ONLY AS A JOKE.
[REDACTED] PCI, [REDACTED] HEARD THROUGH
[REDACTED] THAT IN NINETEEN FIFTY-TWO SUBJECT
ABDUCTED WIFE AND DAUGHTER OF [REDACTED] OF KENOSHA AND
RELEASED AFTER [REDACTED] AGREED TO SURRENDER HIS BUSINESS TO SUBJECT.

RCT/kaj
(1)

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 12:30 P.M. Per WCP

162-49-165

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE TWO

ALLEGEDLY NO COMPLAINT WAS MADE TO POLICE. VERIFICATION SOUGHT
THROUGH INFORMANTS BEFORE INTERVIEW OF [] WHO DID NOT
MENTION INCIDENT IN RECENT INTERVIEW REGARDING SUBJECT.

b6
b7c

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

162-49

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
June 21, 1963

WILLIAM COVELLI
INTERSTATE GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

The following is a characterization of informants used in the report of SA [redacted] dated and captioned as above:

b6
b7C

MI T-1 is [redacted] who is closely associated with gamblers and other hoodlums in the Milwaukee area, particularly so with those in the Italian-American element and is aware of their current illegal activities.

b6
b7C
b7D

MI T-2 is [redacted] who through [redacted] is aware of the Italian-American element and their current illegal activities.

MI T-3 is [redacted] with the Italian-American element in Kenosha and through personal contact still maintains association with this group.

162-49-166
This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Huc

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 28, 1963

[redacted]
Kenosha, Wisconsin, after being advised that he did not have to make a statement, that anything he said could be used against him in a court of law, that he could consult with an attorney, that no promises or duress would be made or used to induce him to make a statement, advised as follows:

[redacted] stated that he had never had anything to do with the repairing or refinishing of damaged cigarette vending machines at the Jay Bee Auto Body Company, 36th Avenue and 60th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin, [redacted] stated that he was working at his [redacted] that evening and does not recall allowing anyone to use his car.

[redacted] advised that he is available for re-interview at any time and can be contacted at his business address.

b6
b7C

On 5/16/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SA [redacted] /lmp Date dictated 5/22/63

162-49-167

Date May 17, 1963

On May 5, 1963 SAs [redacted] and [redacted] checked five cigarette vending machines at the Jay Bee Auto Body Paint Shop, 3902 Wilson Road, Kenosha, Wisconsin which were in various stages of repair and refinishing. These five cigarette vending machines were manufactured by the Eastern Electric Company, Medford, Massachusetts, Models CM-57-MKII-22, had the serial numbers removed, and were unidentified except for one machine which contained serial number 13555.

The cigarette vending machine containing serial number 13555 had a red body and contained a gold and red label marked "SCS, CHICAGO, PAL 5-9402."

There was no other identifying marks on any of the five cigarette vending machines.

b6
b7c

On 5/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs [redacted] & [redacted] Date dictated 5/13/63
Imp

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

162-49-168

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Frinzi Asks Evidence Be Suppressed

Special to The Sentinel

Kenosha, Wis. — Atty. Dominic Frinzi asked Circuit Judge Eugene Baker Thursday to suppress evidence in the William (Whceyer) Covelli case, contending that it was based upon an illegal surveillance of Frinzi's office.

Frinzi is one of the attorneys representing Milwaukee night club operator Frank P. Balistrieri, being tried in Springfield, Ill., on a federal income tax evasion charge.

Frinzi said that Covelli was one of his clients at the time his office was bugged by federal bureau of investigation agents. Agents had told of the bugging in testimony in the Balistrieri trial.

Covelli, a Kenosha vending machine operator and former bar manager, was charged as a result of a John Doe investigation in Kenosha county in 1965. Covelli was charged with two counts of perjury.

Judge Baker set a hearing for Dec. 28 on Frinzi's motion.

In court for the filing of the motion Thursday were Edward F. Neubecker, a law associate of Frinzi's; Francis R. Croak, special prosecutor for the John Doe investigation in Kenosha, and two witnesses — Joseph E. O'Connell, an FBI agent subpoenaed by Frinzi, and Clark Lovrien, a former FBI agent and now chief special agent, in the attorney general's criminal investigation division.

O'Connell told Federal Judge Omer Poos in Springfield that he had "bugged" Balistrieri's office and the office of a Mil-

waukee attorney. Frinzi's office was identified as the law office that had been "bugged" by Maurice J. Walsh, Chicago, one of Balistrieri's attorneys.

Frinzi said that Covelli was one of his clients during the time his office was bugged in 1962 and 1963. He said that some of the questions asked of Covelli during the John Doe probe, and upon which the perjury counts may be based, could have originated from information gleaned from the electronic surveillance of his office.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PART I, PAGE 21
MILWAUKEE SENTINEL
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Date: 12/2/66

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: HARRY SONNEBORN

Title: FRANK P.
BALISTRIERI
INCOME TAX

Character:

or

Classification: 5-0

Submitting Office: MILWAUKEE

☐ Being Investigated

cc sent to au



762-49-16 ON
b6
b7C
Recd up c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE MILWAUKEE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MILWAUKEE	DATE 6/21/63	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/6 - 31/63
TITLE OF CASE WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.		REPORT MADE BY SA 	TYPED BY Imp
		CHARACTER OF CASE IGA	

REFERENCES

Report of SA 5/7/63, Milwaukee.
 Milwaukee airtel to Chicago 5/8/63 (IO),
 Milwaukee airtel to Bureau 5/10/63.
 Milwaukee airtel to Bureau 5/17/63.
 Milwaukee airtel to Bureau 5/27/63.
 Milwaukee airtel to Bureau 6/3/63.

✓ P -

b6
b7cENCLOSURES

To Bureau: Two copies of letterhead memorandum reflecting characterization of informants utilized in this report.

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 3 - Bureau (162-777) (Encs. 3) 1 - USA, Milwaukee ③ - Milwaukee (162-49)		162 - 49 - 169	
		ROUTE READ FOR ACCURACY AND INITIAL <i>[Signature]</i> DATE <i>6-21-63</i>	
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT		NOTATIONS	
AGENCY			
REQUEST RECD.			
DATE FWD.			
HOW FWD.			
BY			

- A -
COVER PAGE

MI 162-49

LEADS

MILWAUKEE DIVISION

At Kenosha, Wisconsin:

1. Will continue attempt to interview Subject concerning his involvement in gambling and other racket activities.
2. Will continue to develop current activities and associates of Subject in an effort to ascertain whether he is engaged in interstate gambling in violation of the laws of the United States.
3. Will remain in contact with [redacted] b6 b7C b7D
4. Will remain in contact with PCI [redacted]
5. Will re-interview [redacted] Wisconsin. b6 b7C
6. Will interview [redacted] for Subject at [redacted]
7. Will report results of telephone toll call data being obtained on Kenosha telephone number OL 2-1390 listed to Subject at 7827-36th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin.
8. Will remain in close contact with PCI [redacted] b6 b7C b7D
9. Will attempt to develop new sources of information concerning Kenosha gambling and Subject's involvement.
10. Contact and interview [redacted] b6 b7C
[redacted] or the American State Bank, Kenosha, Kenosha, Wisconsin, concerning his association with or knowledge of WILLIAM COVELLI's activities. b7D
11. Will remain in contact with [redacted] concerning Subject's associations with the Milwaukee hoodlum element.

- B -

COVER PAGE

MI 162-49

At Waupun, Wisconsin:

Will contact [redacted] concerning his knowledge of gambling in Kenosha; particularly the gambling activities of Subject.

b6
b7C

INFORMANTS

MI T-1 is [redacted] contacted by SAs [redacted] and ALBERT B. KNICKREHN.

b6
b7C
b7D

MI T-2 is [redacted] PCI, [redacted] at Kenosha, Wisconsin, contacted by SAs [redacted] and [redacted]

MI T-3 is [redacted] PCI, [redacted] at Kenosha, Wisconsin, contacted by SAs [redacted] and [redacted]

ADMINISTRATIVE

Details concerning the alleged kidnapping of WILLIAM COVELLI will be submitted in a subsequent report.

- C* -

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

1 - USA, Milwaukee

Report of:

SA [REDACTED]

Office:

MILWAUKEE

Date:

June 21, 1953

Field Office File No.:

MI 162-49

Bureau File No.:

162-777

Title:

WILLIAM COVELLI

Character:

INTERSTATE GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

Synopsis:

MI T-1 advised on 5/6/63 that Subject was known to be meeting with FRANK BALISTRIERI at Milwaukee. On 5/7/63 [REDACTED] Kenosha County SO, advised he had received information that Subject may have been involved in the theft of cigarette vending machines from Chicago, Ill. MI T-1 advised 5/14/63 that Subject was not operating a crap game in Kenosha but had a book going in Kenosha. Subject not handling book himself. COVELLI with JOHN RIZZO frequenting [REDACTED] in Chicago, Ill. MI T-2 advised 5/22/63 that COVELLI had moved the Kenosha Vending Company warehouse to site of former crap game on 56th Street. MI T-3 advised 5/23/63 that gambling was going on upstairs over Greco's Restaurant on 56th Street. Kenosha PD arrest record set out for Subject. [REDACTED] denies any knowledge of stolen vending machines. MI T-1 advised 5/20/63 that Subject and JOHN RIZZO have their independent books going in Kenosha and Racine, Wis. but definitely had no crap game going at this time. Spotchecks of Subject's home and business have disclosed no unusual activity. Information obtained from police officials concerning Subject's past and current associations in Kenosha. Telephone toll call data set out.

- P -

DETAILS:

ME 162-49

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

On May 31, 1963 the Chicago Division advised that telephone number [redacted] Chicago, Illinois is listed to [redacted] a division of [redacted] Chicago. [redacted] is operated by [redacted] a horse race owner who is reported to be close to top hoodlum, [redacted] has been interviewed by the Chicago Division and advised any hoodlum ties and contacts in [redacted] [redacted] is the distributor of [redacted] [redacted] in the Chicago area.

b6
b7C

Date 5/31/631

A public service operator of the Illinois Bell Telephone Company, Chicago, Illinois, furnished the following information concerning the subscribers to telephones called from GL 2-1300 listed to WILLIAM COVELLI, 7377 35th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin:

MI 2-7731 is listed to Chocolate Products Company, 415 West Scott, Chicago, Illinois.

EA C-2347 - no listing was found for this telephone.

GL C-5005 is listed to Atlas Music, a division of A.C. Automatic Service, Inc., 2122 North Western Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

On 5/20/63 at Chicago, Illinois File # MI 162-49
CG 102-277

by RA [redacted] jnn Date dictated 5/24/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ME 162-49
KRB/lcp

AT KENOSHA, WISCONSIN

The following information was obtained from [redacted]
[redacted] Kenosha County Sheriff's Office, Kenosha, on
May 7, 1963 by SA [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] advised he had received information that five cigarette vending machines manufactured by Eastern Electric Company, Medford, Massachusetts, Models EM-57-XXXX-22 belonging to Dependable Venders Company, Downers Grove, Cook County, Illinois, were stolen and transported to Kenosha, Wisconsin sometime during the evening of May 6, 1963. He also advised that the serial numbers were removed on all but one machine and this number was 13555. These machines were taken to the Jay Dee Auto Body Company, 39th Avenue and 60th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin and were reconditioned prior to being repainted. [redacted]

[redacted] information also alleged that COVELLI, a partner in the Kenosha Vending Company, 5511-22nd Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin, had been observed working on these vending machines.

HI 162-49
KTB/lmp

AT KENOSHA, WISCONSIN

The following information was obtained from [redacted]
[redacted] Kenosha County Sheriff's Office on May 15,
1963 by SA [redacted] pertaining to the arrest
record for WILLIAM C. COVELLI:

b6
b7C

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	October 5, 1919
Height	5'5"
Weight	160 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Hazel
Build	Medium
Occupation	Vending machine operator and tavern keeper

Arrest Record

<u>Date</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
12/23/49	Accident	
5/20/53	Accident	
1/30/56	Accident	
10/29/55	Accident	
4/4/57	Speeding	\$15 bond, default
12/3/57	Complainant, stolen car	
12/3/57	Leaving keys in car	\$2 bond, default
4/25/57	Parked illegally in area	\$2 bond, default
9/23/58	Parking in restricted area	\$2 bond, default
9/12/59	Driving with expired driver's license	\$10 bond, default
5/4/59	Leaving keys in car	\$5 bond, default

MI 162-49

On May 22, 1963 MI T-2 advised that COVELLI was moving his storage warehouse for cigarette vending machines and jukeboxes to the space next to Greco's Restaurant and that this address was formerly operated as the '56th Street Cigar Store' at 2207-56th Street. He also stated that COVELLI may appear to be meek and mild-mannered but in reality has a violent temper. He also advised that COVELLI and JOHN RIZZO have not resumed their gambling game on 56th Street.

ME 162-49

On May 23, 1963 ME T-3 advised that he has observed several cars belonging to known Kenosha area gamblers parked near Greco's Restaurant but the owners were not around. Later he learned that they had been gambling upstairs over Greco's Restaurant on 56th Street.

MI 162-49

The following investigation was conducted at Kenosha, Wisconsin by SA [] and SA []

On May 15, 1963 [] Kenosha Police Department, Kenosha, Wisconsin, was interviewed, and he stated that he grew up on the West Side and played ball with many of the individuals now considered gamblers and hoodlums in Kenosha, and he does not see any reason why he should break off their friendship because they are gamblers or considered hoodlums. [] stated that this, in fact, was of benefit to the Kenosha police as he was able to talk to those people, and they had confidence in him.

b6
b7C

RE: WEISER COVELLI

[] stated that WEISER COVELLI is "a pretty solid kid", who definitely had nothing to do with the DIERNAT abduction and murder. [] feels that WEISER COVELLI is following somewhat in his father's footsteps, although he did not think he was going to. [] talked to WEISER COVELLI after the DIERNAT slaying and COVELLI swore on his father's grave that he knew nothing about the abduction and slaying.

[] stated that COVELLI is afraid to talk to the FBI, because of possible repercussions from the hoodlum element, about the DIERNAT slaying. [] stated that he himself told COVELLI that he should talk to authorities because the more you avoid them the more it looks like you have had part. COVELLI recently asked [] "why is the FBI watching my home."

[] stated he was unable to tell COVELLI anything. He said COVELLI is currently not in any tax difficulties and is running the Kenosha Vending Company on 22nd Avenue.

RE: []

[] stated that [] also worked for JOHN RIZZO and WEISER COVELLI when they ran a gambling joint on 56th Street in Kenosha and he worked in the same capacity as ALBERT ALDANA, that is, as door man and lookout. [] stated that [] was a very good friend of JOHN RIZZO, however, he did not know of his relationship with WEISER COVELLI.

MI 162-49

On May 23, 1963 [redacted] Jay Eed Auto Body Company, 2013-63rd Street, advised that several cigarette vending machines had been brought into his paint shop by [redacted] for reconditioning and repainting. He advised that he knew of no connection between these cigarette vending machines and WILLIAM COVELLI. [redacted] stated that these machines were being worked on by members of his staff and would subsequently be picked up by [redacted] for resale. [redacted] also advised that [redacted] was associated with a proprietor of [redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin.

b6
b7C

Spotchecks of Subject's home and business addresses have failed to disclose any unusual activity.

On May 20, 1963 MI T-1 advised that WILLIAM COVELLI and JOEY RIZZO have their books going in Racine and Kenosha, Wisconsin but definitely have not had any crap games going in Kenosha. He said that COVELLI and RIZZO go to [redacted] in Chicago quite often and [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

Date May 28, 1963

[redacted] Racine, Wisconsin,
advised that he was working [redacted] at the
[redacted] Racine, Wisconsin.

[redacted] stated that he did not know ANTHONY BIERNAT
personally but knew who he was after reading the newspaper
accounts of BIERNAT's abduction in January, 1963.

[redacted] stated that he was not working on January 7, 1963 at a
regular job and could not recall where he was or what he was
doing at that time. When questioned concerning the fact that
he was observed at the North Shore Depot the night BIERNAT was
abducted, [redacted] stated that he often picked up the early edition
of the Chicago Evening Newspaper at the depot, but he does not
recall being at the North Shore Depot on January 7, 1963.

[redacted] stated that he knows CADILLAC AL ALBANA, and that ALBANA
used to work as a doorman for JOHN RIZZO who had a card game on
56th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin. In relation to this card game,
[redacted] stated that he used to [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] stated that he knew "WEISER" COVELLI, and that he has a
vending machine business in the Kenosha area. He also stated
that he would bet his life on the fact that "WEISER" COVELLI was
not involved in the ANTHONY BIERNAT abduction and murder.

[redacted] stated that JOHN RIZZO is going to the track every day
but could not name any person or persons who accompany him to the
various tracks.

He stated that RIZZO was going to the Sportsman's Track prior
to May 13, 1963, and that he was presently going to the
Washington Park Track. He also named MAY WOOD as a track
frequented by RIZZO and COVELLI.

The following information was obtained by interview and personal
observation:

DOB:
POB:

[redacted]
Racine, Wisconsin

On 5-17-63 at Racine, Wisconsin File # 92-257
by SA [redacted] /cef Date dictated 5-23-63

Height:	5'6"
Weight:	215
Hair:	Grey - in crew cut style
Eyes:	Brown and wears glasses
Build:	Stocky
Marital Status:	Not known
Criminal Arrests:	Admits to none - except for investigation on gambling - no charge

[] stated that you would not even find a good card game in Kenosha now due to the current heat from local and federal law enforcement. He also stated that the last time he was in Kenosha was in the middle of January, 1963.

b6
b7C

[] stated that he is available for interview by Bureau Agents either at his place of employment or his living quarters at any time. He also stated that he is currently driving an old grey Pontiac, Wisconsin 1963 registration []



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
June 21, 1963

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 162-49

Title WILLIAM COVELLI

Character INTERSTATE GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

Reference Report of SA [REDACTED]
dated and captioned as above.

b6
b7c

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

F B I

Date: 6/24/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) 241600

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA IGA. OO MILWAUKEE

RE MILWAUKEE RAD JUNE TWENTYONE LAST.

ON JUNE TWENTYONE LAST, [REDACTED]

REINTERVIEWED AND IDENTIFIED PHOTOGRAPHS OF FRANK BALISTRIERI,

STEVE DE SALVO AND AUGUST MANIACI AS INDIVIDUALS INTRODUCED

TO HER BY [REDACTED] WITH HIM AT

GALLAGHERS RESTAURANT, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN. SHE STATED THAT

SINCE LAST INTERVIEW, [REDACTED] HAD HER MEET [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND SHE NOW STATES SHE HAS NEVER

[REDACTED] WHO WAS REFERRED TO IN HER NOTEBOOK WITH

NOTATION QUOTE REFERRED BY [REDACTED] UNQUOTE.

CIS AND PCIS, MILWAUKEE, NEGATIVE ON COVELLI ABDUCTION.

MEMO BEING PREPARED ON POTENTIAL WITNESSES GRAND JURY
FOR USE OF DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY.SEVEN TEAMS OF AGENTS CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING HOODLUMS
CONNECTED WITH BALISTRIERI OUTFIT WORKING AT [REDACTED]APL:AH
(1)Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 12:36 P M Per WCP

162-49-170

b6
b7c

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

b6
b7C

PAGE TWO

[] WIS. IN CONNECTION WITH CASE ENTITLED []
[] KICKBACK RACKET ACT, BUFILE SIXTYTHREE DASH EIGHT
FOUR SIX EIGHT.

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Milwaukee (162-49)

DATE: 6/21/63

FROM : SA JOHN A. HOLTZMAN

SUBJECT: HOODLUM ACTIVITIES
MILWAUKEE DIVISION

The following information is set out based on my conversation June 19, 1963, with SAAGS WALTER BARNES and PHILIP WHITE, USA BRENNAN and AUSA [redacted] relative to use of a Grand Jury to further our investigation of hoodlum matters, particularly the COVELLI and BIERNAT cases.

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b7C

As a general matter, they do not feel that a full-scale Grand Jury is warranted based on our investigative results to date; that such a Grand Jury would have considerable publicity and if we drew a blank would put the Government in a bad light and the hoodlums in an improved position as being possibly harrassed. They do feel, however, that a limited Grand Jury inquiry is called for at this time and will recommend for Departmental approval this procedure:

The continuation of the present Grand Jury, which has already

[redacted]

[redacted] They do not feel that based on the testimony so far received there is sufficient testimony to hope for perjury action against [redacted] or the perfection of an ITWI case based on the [redacted]

b3

On July 16, for one or two days, [redacted]

[redacted]

b3

2-165-107 ("The Office")
2-165-18 (Vernon Hills Country Club)
2-92-257 (JOSEPH FRANK GURERA)

JAH:bs
(8) *bs*

162-49-171

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 21 1963	
MILWAUKEE	

[redacted]

b6
b7C

MI 162-49

In order to accomplish the above, it is requested that Agents to whom cases are assigned (are listed below) immediately cause the necessary leads to be covered as set out:

162-49---Immediately prepare and submit to the Bureau for transmission to the Department with carbon copies for USA letterhead memoranda reflecting activities of interview of the various hoodlums contacted;

92-257---Continue investigation as to the activities of hoodlums connected with this matter and prepare significant information in the form of letterhead memoranda to supplement summary report previously submitted in this case;

Referral/Consult

165-18---Vernon Hills Country Club: 1) [redacted]

2) Support his activities by reference to toll charges to his phone and check phone so far as possible; 3) Obtain from [redacted] the check allegedly seized from AUGIE MANIACI and details of MANIACI's alleged statement that this was payment of a gambling debt by [redacted] 4) Request Chicago to promptly complete investigation relative to the identity of endorsers of [redacted] checks believed used for payment of gambling debts; 5) Interview [redacted] and other individuals who are discovered and can provide information as to his gambling activities; 6) Interview [redacted] at length relative to the information assembled.

b6
b7C

MI 162-49

Referral/Consult

165-107--The Office, According to SAAGs, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

1) Correlate our investigative efforts as to "the office" with
[REDACTED]

2) Have Chicago and/or Minneapolis determine, if possible, any toll calls from individuals known to be transmitting the line to Milwaukee, particularly to phone numbers available to [REDACTED] and/or other bookmakers connected with "the office."

b6
b7C

SAAGs remarked as a result of their contact with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Referral/Consult

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Milwaukee [redacted]

DATE: 6/24/63

FROM : SA [redacted]

☒ CI

☐ SI

☐ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [redacted]

b7D

b6
b7C

b7D

Dates of Contact		6/10/63
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
JOHN CHARLES RIZZO, aka	92-164	[redacted]
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka	162-49	[redacted]
"THE OFFICE"	165-107	LE GRAND
IGA	162-1	[redacted]
CIP	92-145	THOMPSON
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
<p>Informant advised that JOHNNY RIZZO is still booking at Racine, Wisc., but that his book is slow. He stated that it's possible that RIZZO may be going to the race track and does some booking there. He advised that as far as he knows the crap game which RIZZO used to run in Kenosha is no longer in operations.</p> <p>With regard to WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI, he stated that COVELLI is booking, but he doesn't know exactly where. He pointed out that it is possible that he may be booking with JOHNNY RIZZO. He advised that he had not heard nor had he seen the article in the newspaper with regard to COVELLI's alleged abduction by the FBI. He stated that he had just [redacted] with [redacted] BUSTER BALESTRERE and others and there was not even any discussion about this. He advised that since it did appear in the paper he would attempt to find out who may have done this.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating	Coverage
	Excellent	Gambling
Personal Data		

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

1-92-164
AKK:bs
(6)

1-162-49
1-162-1

1-165-107
1-92-145

b6
b7C

162-49-172

MI [redacted]

b7D

He advised that [redacted] has gone back to work and is now [redacted]. He noted that [redacted] had perviously returned to [redacted] where he had [redacted]. He advised that he [redacted] is still working for "the office." He advised that [redacted] also helps [redacted] a couple nights a week.

b6
b7C
b7D

Informant stated that he heard that there is a crap game supposed to open up in LaCrosse, Wisc., shortly at a hotel called the Male or Malte (phonetic) Hotel. He advised that both the Sheriff's Office and the PD are supposed to know about it.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

Milwaukee

DATE: 6/24/63

FROM : SA

ALBERT D. KNICKREHM

☒ CI

☐ SI

☐ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT:

b7D

Dates of Contact		
6/14/63		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
FRANCIS CONRAD STELLOH, aka	92-315	THOMPSON
CIP	92-145	THOMPSON
WILLIAM COVELLI, IGA	162-49	
JOSEPH FRANK GUREDA, AR	92-257	T. HOLTZMAN
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
<p>Informant advised that he had had a conversation with FRANCIS STELLOH and [redacted] a couple of days ago, and among the things discussed was the abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI. He stated that both these individuals were of the opinion that COVELLI set this abduction up himself in order to take the pressure off him. He stated that they felt that COVELLI may have received some information from the Kenosha PD that the FBI was getting close to solving the BIERNAT case and were about to pick him up for questioning. He stated that COVELLI may have had someone help him to perpetrate this abduction in order for him to gain public sympathy and to take the pressure off of him. He stated that they both felt that the FBI would not have done such a thing.</p> <p>[redacted]</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Excellent	Coverage Gambling
Personal Data		

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

1-92-315
ABK:bs
(5)

1-92-145
1-92-257

1-162-49

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 25 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	
[redacted]	

b6
b7C

162-49-173

HI

b7D

He advised that the outfit is quite concerned and, in fact, upset about FBI going out and interviewing all of the hoodlums about the COVELLI incident. He stated that the outfit feels that the FBI had put a great deal of pressure on them as a result of the BERNAT murder and now, with this new incident, additional pressure was being put on them. He stated that the outfit was hoping things would quiet down but that this new incident reopened an old wound. He advised that the outfit had hoped that the pressure would die down so that they could again operate in their old ways and added that with this additional pressure it is possible the outfit might take some action against COVELLI.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC MILWAUKEE [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/24/63

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

☐ CI ☐ SI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

☒ PCI ☐ PSI

PCI

b7D

b6
b7C

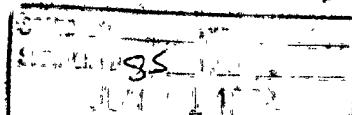
b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact	
3/28/63	
Titles and File #s on which contacted:	
JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka.	92-257
[REDACTED]	1-211
JERRY COVELLI	92-317
WILLIAM COVELLI	162-49
CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM	92-145
JOHN RIZZO	92-164
CRIME CONDITIONS IN KENOSHA	92-255
Purpose and results of contact	
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE	
See memo attached.	
This FD-209 is being prepared to aid in the subsequent dissemination of information furnished by PCI at an earlier date. Information has already been furnished for 92-257 in connection with the investigation conducted in that matter.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating
Personal Data	Coverage

b6
b7C

EFF:jb

cc - 1-211 92-164
92-317 92-255
162-49 92-145



b6
b7C

Date April 9, 1963

MEMORANDUM

(Is [redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin)
MI T- stated he has been acquainted with [redacted] for more than 10 years. [redacted] is owner and operator of [redacted] located at [redacted] Wisconsin. MI T- stated that he has known BILL "WEISER" COVELLI for more than ten years and at the time of contact with Informant the Informant believed COVELLI was then in Los Angeles, California, where he has [redacted]

[redacted] MI T- advised that BILL COVELLI's mother is living at his residence located at 7827 36th Avenue with BILL and ELEANOR COVELLI and that as of that time [redacted]

Informant advised that "WEISER" COVELLI is a partner of [redacted] in the Kenosha Vending Company, 5611 22nd Avenue, and that [redacted] who is approximately [redacted] years of age, is [redacted] for the Kenosha Vending Company.

b6
b7C
b7D

Informant stated that on approximately [redacted] he attended a party at [redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin, where there were approximately 70 - 80 people in attendance, most of whom were well known Kenosha gamblers. Informant advised that he had observed [redacted] and [redacted] Kenosha Police Department, in attendance. Among the gamblers MI T- was able to recall as having been present were "WEISER" COVELLI, [redacted] AL "CADILLAC" ALBANA, [redacted] and other well known gamblers, all from Kenosha. The informant advised he was unable to recall any out-of-town gamblers being present, such as JOHN RIZZO of Racine or other Milwaukee gamblers. He stated that [redacted] and [redacted] were seated with "WEISER" COVELLI the better part of the evening.

MI T- stated that he had heard that [redacted] (phonetic), a representative of [redacted], is an extremely wealthy man and owns valuable properties in various areas of Kenosha, Wisconsin. Informant advised that he owns, or is the man behind, numerous tavern licenses that have been conferred to different individuals, particularly those in the Italian area.

Informant stated he had heard that in the past gambling games were held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the building just east of Greco's

On 3/28/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 92-257
by SA [redacted] and
SA [redacted] of [redacted] Date dictated 4/4/63

b6
b7C

MI 92-257

2

Restaurant, and that very few local people ever attended. Most of the people were from Milwaukee and other surrounding communities. The door man, according to MI T- was AL "CADILLAC" ALBANA for the past year and before that had been one JIM BUTTERA (phonetic), who died either in 1961 or 1962.

Informant stated he had heard that "WEISER" COVELLI, RIZZO and [REDACTED] had all been working the gambling game, and some time ago, perhaps more than two years or so, BUSTER BALESTRERE of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, had been assisting in the game also. Informant advised he had heard that [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

MI T- stated that he had also heard that at [REDACTED]

Informant related that while he does not know specifically, the rumor is that [REDACTED] at the instruction of [REDACTED]

MI T- advised that as he recalled on a Sunday night sometime after September, 1962, although he cannot specifically name the month, he saw "WEISER" COVELLI and JOHN RIZZO at [REDACTED] with two other individuals, one of whom was later identified for him as JOE GURERA of Milwaukee. Informant stated he never did learn the identity of the fourth man with RIZZO and COVELLI. MI T- stated that he has seen STEVE DE SALVO on several occasions, but does not recall the particular time when he might have seen DE SALVO.

Informant further related that he heard that JEFF COVELLI, while he is supposedly a sick individual, is not as sick as actually made out, and that whenever he gets in a jam with the gamblers or the police he leaves town for treatment, creating the impression that he is sicker than he is in fact.

MI T- advised that he knew TONY BIERNAT for over ten years and he regarded him as basically a good individual who might have had some personal weaknesses, but Informant stated that stories regarding TONY BIERNAT being a "chaser" were, in his opinion, mostly false and the Informant conjectured that these were stories started by the West side Italians to direct the heat away from themselves.

MI 92-257

3

Informant stated that he overheard [redacted] (phonetic) [redacted]

[redacted]

Informant advised that he believed "WEISER" COVELLI is in the vending machine business as he needs a front or an apparent source of income, and Informant stated that [redacted]

[redacted] Informant advised that it is very possible, although he does not know for sure, that the Milwaukee hoodlum crowd has money in the Kenosha Vending Company.

MI T- related that sometime in December, 1962, prior to Christmas, "WEISER" COVELLI [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] The Informant advised that he did not know this man and had never seen him before or since this event. Informant also stated that "WEISER" COVELLI did not show any recognition of this man as he [redacted]

[redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Milwaukee [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/24/63

FROM : SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM

☒ CI ☐ SI

☐ PCI ☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Dates of Contact		6/17/63
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
[REDACTED] ITAR	166-37	
WILLIAM COVELLI, IGA	162-49	[REDACTED]
CIP	92-145	THOMPSON
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
<p>Informant advised that he has heard considerable conversation with regard to COVELLI's abduction among the hoodlum element, and all of them agree that the FBI had absolutely nothing to do with this incident. They all think that COVELLI set this up himself in order to take the heat off him. He stated that none of them believe that the syndicate, especially the Chicago syndicate, was afraid that COVELLI might talk because of the pressure being put on him by the FBI and picked him up themselves in order to put him to the test. He stated that [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] He advised that he had had a conversation with [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating	Coverage
	Excellent	Gambling
Personal Data		162-49-175 55 [REDACTED]

1-166-37 1-162-49
ABK:bs 1-92-145
(4)

b7D

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C

MI [redacted]

b7D

With regard to [redacted] he
stated that [redacted] does [redacted]

[redacted]

He advised that he sees [redacted] quite often and talks to him
and that he would keep his ears and eyes open in an effort to
find out [redacted] He stated that
he still did not know the name of [redacted] but would attempt
to find out.

b6
b7C
b7D

With regard to the possibility that [redacted]
he stated that he doesn't believe so although from his actions
and appearance he could see where someone would suspect [redacted]
[redacted]

6/25/63

AIRTEL

REGULAR MAIL

TO: SAC, CHICAGO (166-77)
FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (165-18) (P)
SUBJECT: VERNON HILLS COUNTRY CLUB
GAMBLING CLUB
ITAR

Departmental Attorneys in Milwaukee during the week of June 17 have tentative plans to institute a Grand Jury proceeding on July 16 next to inquire into the ANTHONY J. BIERNAT slaying in Kenosha, the alleged abduction in Kenosha of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI, one of the principal suspects in the BIERNAT slaying, and into other areas of illegal operations by the Italian hoodlum element in Milwaukee and Kenosha. The Departmental Attorneys do not desire at the present to institute a "full scale" inquiry but rather desire to proceed slowly with the expectation of continuing the Grand Jury over a long period of time, a day or two a month unless some more concrete information comes to our attention either through investigation or through the Grand Jury making another course of action more desirable. They also feel that a full scale Grand Jury at this time would not result in any indictments for either the BIERNAT or the COVELLI cases and would put the Government in a bad light if no action by the Grand Jury ensued.

In looking over the total situation in the Milwaukee area the Departmental Attorneys feel that after the initial groundwork is laid one of the early witnesses should be [redacted] who is believed to have considerable knowledge of gambling operations at Vernon Hills and related gambling clubs and possibly information as to the BIERNAT case. It is also felt that [redacted] is susceptible to Grand Jury pressure because of his [redacted] and

2 - Chicago
3 - Milwaukee (1 - 165-18)
(1 - 162-49)
(1 - 92-257)

JAH/lmp
(5)

huc

162-49-176

b6
b7c

MI 165-18

[REDACTED]

It is contemplated to call [REDACTED] on July 16 and prior to that date it is necessary to have as much information about his operation as possible. To this end the following leads should be covered by your office and results submitted to Milwaukee as soon as feasible:

b6
b7c

1. Refer to report of SA JOHN A. HOLTZMAN in captioned case dated 1/9/63, page 5, and furnish as much information as possible relative to the endorsers on the checks and their connection, if any, with gambling operations in Chicago;

2. A \$500 check to [REDACTED] Milwaukee dated 9/26/61 bears the endorsement allegedly of [REDACTED] and one [REDACTED]. This check was deposited in the State Bank of Antioch, Illinois but the date of the bank stamp is unreadable beyond the fact that it is October.

A similar request is made as to [REDACTED]

3. Refer to page 6 of the above report to the effect that [REDACTED] was heavily in debt to Chicago gamblers and that AUGIE MANIACI of Milwaukee was retained to collect. Furnish any informant or other information pertinent to this situation.
4. As previously requested in the BERNAT case under the caption, JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka., AR, furnish up-to-date toll ticket information from Vernon Hills operators to Milwaukee.
5. Furnish subscribers to phone numbers listed on page 13 of above report.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/26/63

FROM : SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

b7D

Dates of Contact	
6/19/63	
Titles and File #s on which contacted	
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka, IGA	162-49 [REDACTED]
JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka, AR	92-257 HOLTZMAN
[REDACTED] AR	92-227 C KNICKREHM
AUGIE MANIACI, AR	94-318 C THOMPSON
[REDACTED] aka, AR	92-228 C THOMPSON
FRANK PETER BALISTRIERI, aka, AR	94-316 HOLTZMAN
Purpose and results of contact:	
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE	BUSTER BALESTRERE, AR 92-166 KNICKREHM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE	STEVE DE SALVO, AR 92-165 KNICKREHM
	CIP 92-145 THOMPSON
<p>Informant advised that he is still employed as [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] and resides at [REDACTED] in Milwaukee. He advised that he does not know WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI and the only thing he knows about COVELLI's alleged abduction is what he read in the newspapers. He stated that in the conversation he has had with other individuals regarding the COVELLI incident that no one is of the opinion that the FBI did this and all seem to doubt COVELLI's story. He advised that he has no idea why anyone would have wanted to abduct COVELLI nor who would have done it. He stated that this incident is just causing a lot of extra heat on everyone for nothing. He added that this is a ridiculous situation.</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating
Personal Data	Coverage

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

(1) - 162-49
1 - 94-318
1 - 92-166
ABK/lmp
(10)

1 - 92-257
1 - 92-228
1 - 92-165

1 - 92-227
1 - 94-316
1 - 92-145

162-49-176A
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JUN 26 1963

[REDACTED]
Fe Grand [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

MI [REDACTED]

b7D

Informant was questioned as to what, if anything, he has heard regarding the murder of ANTHONY BERNAT. He stated that he has heard nothing about it recently and that there is no talk concerning this. He was requested to attempt to seek some information regarding this and he advised that even if he was offered \$20,000 or \$100,000 he wouldn't be able to take it because he knows nothing about the BERNAT murder and added that [REDACTED]. He advised that the only individuals he sees are [REDACTED] AUGIE MANTACI, and [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

He stated that [REDACTED] is sick as he has [REDACTED]

He advised that he sees FRANK BALISTRERI occasionally but that they never talk business. He stated that their conversation is nothing more than just a greeting. He advised that FRANK comes to [REDACTED] once in awhile but but talks all business [REDACTED]. He advised that he goes to Gallagher's about once a month and usually sees FRANK there but that he talks to [REDACTED]

With regard to STEVE DE SALVO he advised that he sees DE SALVO very infrequently and added that he last saw DE SALVO the previous week when DE SALVO came up to [REDACTED]. He advised that he doesn't know what DE SALVO was doing at [REDACTED] and his only conversation with DE SALVO was just to greet him. He believes DE SALVO talked to [REDACTED]

MI [REDACTED]

b7D

With regard to BUSTER BALESTRERE he advised that he doesn't see BUSTER very often but that BUSTER was up to [REDACTED] a few days ago and added that he doesn't know the reason for BUSTER's visit. With regard to the individual visiting BUSTER BALESTRERE and [REDACTED] from Kansas City by the name of JOE AMADOR he advised that he doesn't know AMADOR and never heard of him.

With regard to an Italian syndicate in Milwaukee informant advised that there is none as far as he knows. He stated that Milwaukee is a clean town and is quiet. He advised that he never heard of any such organization in Milwaukee. He stated that in his rounds of [REDACTED] there is no such talk of an Italian organization.

b6
b7C
b7D

Informant advised that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

He stated he knows nothing about any hoodlum activity and that he doesn't want to know anything about any hoodlum activity. He stated that he couldn't accept any money for information as he knows nothing, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

F B I

Date: JUNE 25, 1963

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)
FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) 251556
WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, IGA. OO MILWAUKEE.
REMIRAD 6-24-63.

[REDACTED] MILWAUKEE PD, RECALLS INFORMANT ADVISED SEVERAL YEARS AGO THAT JOHN C. RIZZO, GAMBLING PARTNER OF SUBJECT, WAS ABDUCTED AND HE HIRED A PRIVATE DETECTIVE TO FIND HIS CAR, WHICH ABDUCTORS TOOK FROM HIM. [REDACTED] UNABLE TO FIND REPORT CONTAINING THIS INFORMATION, BUT SEARCH FOR SAME CONTINUES.

APPOINTMENT MADE TO INTERVIEW [REDACTED] ILL., TOMORROW. [REDACTED] WHO ALLEGEDLY HAS INFORMATION ON AN ABDUCTION COMMITTED BY SUBJECT IN NINETEEN FIFTYTWO.

WHEN ABOVE ABDUCTION STORIES HAVE BEEN RUN OUT, INTERVIEWS WITH PERTINENT HOODLUMS ARE CONTEMPLATED.

[REDACTED] AND NUMEROUS INFORMANTS CONTACTED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

RCT:mcs
(1)

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 12:22 P M Per WCP

162-49-177

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Covelli Probers Seize FBI Pair, Apologize

Take Agents To Station In Kenosha

By Sentinel Staff Writer

Kenosha, Wis. — Two Kenosha police officers who were "not familiar" with FBI identification cards, ordered two FBI agents to go to the police station one night last week "so they (the agents) could be checked out." The Milwaukee Sentinel learned Friday.

The incident was a result of intensive investigations being conducted by both the police and the FBI into the reported abduction June 6 of Kenosha vending machine distributor William (Wheeler) Covelli, sources said.

Detective Capt. Arthur Riley confirmed Friday that two officers ordered the FBI agents into the police department after the agents had identified themselves and shown their credentials. Riley said the agents were not arrested and the mixup was cleared up when the officers and agents reported to the station.

Account of Incident

Riley gave this account of the June 12 incident:

The officers, whose names could not be learned, had been assigned to watch Covelli's house in connection with the abduction report. At about 9 p.m. June 12, they saw a car with two men drive slowly by the house in a suspicious manner.

The officers stopped the car and ordered the men to identify themselves. The men said they were FBI agents, and showed their credentials. The officers, apparently not sure of the identification, told the men to drive to the police station so the identification could be checked out.

They Were FBI Agents

When the group arrived at the station, a sergeant on duty checked the identification cards and confirmed that the two men were FBI agents.

"We had directed these officers to pay particular attention to Mr. Covelli's home because of the abduction," Riley said. "These two men were not familiar with procedures and they wanted to be absolutely sure they acted properly."

The incident was a "routine" one and did not create any difficulties, Riley said. He declined to identify the FBI agents.

Paul H. Stoddard, special agent in charge of the Milwaukee FBI office, declined comment on the incident.

It has been learned, however, that the Kenosha police department apologized to the FBI for the incident. The FBI has been investigating the alleged Covelli abduction because the two men who reportedly abducted Covelli said they were FBI agents but later allegedly told Covelli they were "friends of the FBI."

A2 Milwaukee Sentinel

Milwaukee

Wisconsin

Date: 6/22/63
Edition: Morning
Author:
Editor: Harry Sonneborn
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Milwaukee

162-49-178

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 24 1963	
MILWAUKEE	

cc sent Bureau

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/25/63

FROM : SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM

☐ CI ☐ SI

☒ PCI ☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact		
6-20-63		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
WILLIAM COVELLI	162-49 (SA [REDACTED])	
FRANK BALISTRIERI	94-361 (SA HOLTZMAN)	
STEVE DE SALVO	92-165 (SA KNICKREHM)	
BUSTER BALESTRERE	92-166 (SA KNICKREHM)	
CIP	92-145 (SA THOMPSON)	
IGA	162-1 (SA [REDACTED])	
Purpose of Contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
<p>Informant advised that he knows WILLIAM COVELLI only as WEISER and has never known his first or last name. He stated his only association with COVELLI was at Kenosha, Wis. when [REDACTED] used to go there to gamble and COVELLI was there. He advised he had not heard of the incident re COVELLI's abduction and has no idea as to why it was done or who did it. He stated there was absolutely no talk about it. With regard to the murder of BIERNAT, he advised he has no information as to this murder and that there was no talk about this either.</p> <p>He stated he has not seen FRANK BALISTRIERI, STEVE DE SALVO or BUSTER BALESTRERE, now has he heard anything about them. He advised he does not care at all for FRANK BALISTRIERI [REDACTED]</p> <p>With regard to WALTER BROCCA, he advised he saw him recently at the [REDACTED] but that he just said hello to BROCCA and</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Good	Coverage AR
Personal Data		162-49-179 SS

b7D

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

162-49
94-361
92-165
ABK:mg
(8)

92-166
92-145
162-1
92-257

b6
b7C

MI [redacted]

that BROCCA was there with someone else having a cup of coffee.

He advised that he sees [redacted] frequently and [redacted] frequents [redacted]

He advised that [redacted] and seems to be doing o.k. financially with them.

With regard to [redacted] he advised [redacted] has been sick with stomach trouble and that he is working at [redacted]

He stated [redacted] who is also known as [redacted] runs [redacted] and that [redacted] is probably one of the best crap players around Milwaukee. He stated [redacted] is doing nothing illegal that he knows of.

He advised that [redacted] operates [redacted] at [redacted] and that he saw [redacted] at his place of business a couple weeks ago, but that [redacted] had no information of any illegal activity.

He advised [redacted] has gone to Cal. to live, does not know where but feels it possibly San Diego. He stated he has not seen JOE GURERA around at all nor has he seen JOHNNY RIZZO.

He advised there are no crap games going on in Milwaukee and if there were he would know about it as he likes to shoot crap. He stated he does not know of any crap games going on in Kenosha at the present time and doubts that there are.

b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (162-49)

DATE: June 24, 1963

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.
IGA

[REDACTED] Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept. advised 6/18/63 that he had received information from a confidential source, who in turn had received same from a third party, that a dark colored car, maybe a Plymouth, 4-5 years old, bearing 1963 Wisc. license [REDACTED] or these numbers in a different order, having high fins on the rear fenders, was observed in the vicinity of WILLIAM COVELLI'S home on the night of 6/4. No descriptions of the cars occupants was obtained, but the passenger appeared to be Italian looking. The original source is unfriendly to all law enforcement according to [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] is checking this information and the numbers.

162-49-180

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED SS	FILED SS
JUN 24 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

R

F B I

Date: June 26, 1963

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plain text or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

from SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, AR. OO-MILWAUKEE.

REMIRAD TO BUREAU JUNE TWENTY-FIVE LAST.

[REDACTED] STATED THAT ABOUT NINETEEN FORTY-NINE AN INFORMANT TOLD HIM A KENOSHA GAMBLER WAS FORCED TO TURN HIS BUSINESS OVER TO SUBJECT WHEN HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER WERE ABDUCTED AND HELD AT GUN POINT. [REDACTED] UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE GAMBLER BUT THE GAMBLING OPERATION WAS PROBABLY CONDUCTED BY [REDACTED] UNABLE TO REACH HIS INFORMANT.

b6
b7C
b7D

RACINE COUNTY SHERIFF ADVISED THAT ON APRIL FIFTEEN SIXTYONE JOHN C. RIZZO, KENOSHA GAMBLER WHO LIVES IN RACINE, WAS HELD UP AT HIS HOME. ROZZO MADE NO COMPLAINT AND APPARENTLY WAS NOT FORTHRIGHT WHEN INTERVIEWED BY DEPUTIES. OFFENSE WAS REPORTED BY PRIVATE DETECTIVE WHOSE AGENCY HAD BEEN HIRED BY RIZZO THREE WEEKS PREVIOUSLY TO MAKE NIGHTLY CHECKS OF HIS HOUSE. NO ABDUCTION INVOLVED. MATTER APPARENTLY SOLVED IN DECEMBER SIXTY-ONE WHEN MILWAUKEE PD ARRESTED [REDACTED] ON OTHER CHARGES. [REDACTED] NOT KNOWN TO BE HOODLUM

b6
b7C

CONNECTED. CASE WAS NOT PROSECUTED.

END. PAGE ONE

RCT:Gtc

(1)

Approved: 

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

9 19

P M

Per

D. J. F.

162-49-181

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

PAGE TWO ...

INVESTIGATION OF ABDUCTION OF WOMAN AND DAUGHTER AS WELL AS
RIZZO ROBBERY, ABOVE, BEING CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN PRESSURE ON
HOODLUMS, AS THE INCIDENTS CONSTITUTE AREAS IN WHICH HOODLUMS WANT
NOTHING REVEALED.

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: **June 25, 1963**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via **AIRTEL** _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

✓ To: SAC, Milwaukee (162-49)
✓ From: Director, FBI (162-777)

**WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA**

Reurrad 6-24-63.

The last paragraph of referenced radiogram states, in part, that seven teams of Agents are currently engaged in the investigation of the case entitled, [REDACTED] Kickback Racket Act." The Bureau notes that while the [REDACTED] case merits prompt concentrated investigative attention, that no close deadline has been set for the completion of this investigation. You should not, therefore, decrease the investigative attention which captioned and related hoodlum matters in your territory require and demand. This is especially true in view of the pending unsolved Biernat murder case, the efforts of imported hoodlums to take over gambling in the Milwaukee area, the most recent alleged abduction of Covelli, accompanied by efforts on the part of leading hoodlums and their attorney to discredit the FBI, along with the impending Federal Grand Jury designed to look into each of these matters which, of course, will require additional and supplemental investigation. You should, therefore, continue to press captioned and related hoodlum matters in your territory and to use sufficient personnel to achieve the necessary objectives.

b6
b7c

162-49-182

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED 8	FILED 1
JUN 25 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

Thompson
FBI - MILWAUKEE

Sent Via _____

F B I

Date: June 25, 1963

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

To: SAC, Milwaukee (162-49)
✓ From: Director, FBI (162-777)

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA
OO: MI

Reur radiogram 6-21-63.

Your attention is invited to paragraph five of rerad wherein PCI [] stated, in part, that the source of his information on the Biernat matter [] and he doesn't believe [] has additional information. In view of the fact that it is believed that [] was primary source of information furnished by PCI [] clarify and furnish Bureau basis for his statement that the source of his information on the Biernat matter []

b6
b7C
b7D

162-49-123

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <u>8</u>	FILED _____
JUN 27 1963	
FBI — MILWAUKEE	

Thompson

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

F B I

Date: 6/28/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) 281551

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, AR. OO MILWAUKEE.

RE MIRAD TO BUREAU DATED JUNE 27, 1963.

[REDACTED] ADVISED HIS HOODLUM ASSOCIATES STATE COVELLI SET UP
ABDUCTION TO TAKE HEAT OFF HIMSELF. COVELLI-S CRAP GAME IN KENOSHA
CLOSED BUT COVELLI IS BOOK MAKING.

AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, [REDACTED] MILWAUKEE, WIS.,
ALLEGED TO HAVE [REDACTED] DURING MURDER OF
ANTHONY J. BIERNAT.

[REDACTED] INTERVIEWED, STATES [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BELIEVES THEY ARE TRUE. SHE SAYS SHE HAS NO INFORMATION ON
GAMBLERS INVOLVED AND [REDACTED] FINANCES ARE IN HANDS OF
RECEIVERS.

REBU AIRTEL JUNE TWENTYFIVE LAST CONCERNING PCI [REDACTED]

APL:mg

(1)

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 12:46 P M Per WCP

La Grand - Gb

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

MI 162-49

WHOM HE DESCRIBES AS ITALIAN HOODLUM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HAS NOT ADMITTED SUPPLYING INFORMATION ON

BIERNAT MURDER TO [REDACTED] NA, MILWAUKEE PD, NOR HAS

HE ADMITTED THE SOURCE OF HIS INFORMATION BUT FROM MATERIAL HE HAS

GIVEN AGENTS IT IS CLEARLY IMPLIED THAT HE SUPPLIED [REDACTED] WITH THE

INFORMATION AND THAT THE SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION WAS [REDACTED]

SINCE MIRAD DATED JUNE 21, 1963 [REDACTED] HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH

AGENTS AND STATES THAT IF [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] APPROXIMATELY [REDACTED] HAS BEEN IN DAILY

CONTACT WITH MILWAUKEE AGENTS ON THIS MATTER AND EFFORTS BEING MADE

TO OBTAIN INFORMATION [REDACTED] CAREFUL IN PHRASING HIS STATEMENTS

IMPLYING HE HAS NO PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF MATTER WHICH BY

IMPLICATION ONLY APPEARS TO COME FROM [REDACTED]

END

b6
b7C
b7DApproved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b7D

TO : SAC Milwaukee [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/27/63

FROM : SA JOHN A. HOLTZMAN

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

b6
b7C
b7D

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Dates of Contact	
6/4, 10 and 18/63	
Titles and File #s on which contacted	
[REDACTED]	42-3742 C
FRANK PETER BALISTRIERI, AR	94-316 HOLTZMAN
TEAMSTERS LOCAL 200	92-171 C
LA CAUSA NOSTRA, AR	92-262 THOMPSON
WILLIAM COVELLI, IGA	162-49 [REDACTED]
MILWAUKEE POLICE	80-448
Purpose and results of contact	
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE	STEVE JOHN DE SALVO, AR 92-165 KNICKREHN
<input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE	FRANCIS CONRAD STELLOH, aka 92-315 THOMPSON
	JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, AR 92-257 HOLTZMAN
Informant paid \$50 6/10/63 for services 6/1 through 10/63.	
On 6/4/63, informant advised as follows:	
On [REDACTED] FRANK BALISTRIERI called [REDACTED]	
[REDACTED] Also there were [REDACTED] and a short fat blond Italian who works for the Teamsters Union. During the course of the conversation, partially in Italian, informant learned that FRANK is in the business of "making jukeboxes": [REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating
Personal Data	Coverage
162-49-185	
SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED JUN 28 1963	

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C

1-42-3742

1-94-316

1-92-171

1-92-262

1-162-49

1-80-448

1-92-165

1-92-315

JAH:bs

1-92-257

(10)

MI [redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

BALISTRIERI was half drunk on this occasion and made a statement, the full significance of which the informant did not understand, as follows: [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

In connection with the jukebox discussion, informant got the impression that [redacted] may also be interested in this business.

Informant has picked up the following items or impressions:

[redacted] apparently has some standing previously unrecognized by the informant in the eyes of BALISTRIERI.

[redacted] may be in trouble with the law in some respects.

[redacted] whereabouts unknown. He was last known to be in Cleveland but has left there. Informant does not know the nature of [redacted] but will advise if his whereabouts become known to her.

Our files show this individual as identical with the subject of [redacted] and identical with Milwaukee PD [redacted] do [redacted] Contact with Milwaukee PD and SO disclosed that he was [redacted]

b7D

HI [REDACTED]

On 6/18/63, informant said that on Saturday, June 8, BALISTRIERI was bragging in her presence to [REDACTED] about an incident, which he alleged occurred with [REDACTED] time not stated.

b6
b7C
b7D

Informant had the definite impression from FRANK's manner in conversation that he had in mind [REDACTED]

On 6/12/63, FRANK endeavored to get [REDACTED]

The following day, [REDACTED] said that she, FRANK and [REDACTED]

MI [redacted]

[redacted] now lives at [redacted]
[redacted] having formerly lived at [redacted]

On Wednesday or Thursday night, [redacted] three men were in [redacted] looking for FRANK and being unable to find him [redacted] and then went out to look further for him, apparently on the directions of JOE BALISTRIERI. Informant has the impression that a couple of these men were from Chicago and that the third one could be FRANK SANSONE whom she does not know but has seen pictures of. The older man believed from Chicago was approximately 60 years old, 5'10", hefty build, bulbous nose. They were accompanied by a 22 or 23 year old youth who was strictly in the capacity of a tag-along.

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b7D

On [redacted] during the evening, officers from the Milwaukee PD Vice Squad and other detectives (6 in all) were in [redacted] and from the description, informant furnished, the leader of the group was [redacted]. They confronted FRANK and [redacted] and handed them some sort of papers, which informant believes were summons, on receipt of which [redacted] said, "Oh, no."

The next day DOMINIC FRINZI was in, and in a discussion he had with FRANK BALISTRIERI stated that he could not represent both FRANK and [redacted]. FRANK said that he would then have to drop [redacted]. During this conversation, FRANK said that he had "been served."

Informant said that [redacted] is still being treated like dirt by FRANK BALISTRIERI, and this situation has existed for almost two months now, which is very unusual. [redacted]

Informant noticed in the papers of June 18 the photographs of two Vice Squad detectives, [redacted]. She recognized these two individuals as persons previously identified to her by [redacted] as [redacted]. (See informant's report 12/14/62--also 12/6/62). Informant said she recalled seeing these two detectives, [redacted] sit and talk with FRANK, [redacted] in a manner in which they never exhibited toward other law enforcement officers. [redacted]

[redacted] Informant apologized for having furnished erroneous information as to the identity of these two officers.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/26/63

b7D

FROM : SA JOHN A. HOLTZMAN

☒ CI ☐ SI

☐ PCI ☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Dates of Contact

6/7, 14/63

Titles and File #s on which contacted

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka, AR

162-49 THOMPSON

FRANK PETER BALISTRERI, aka, AR

94-316 HOLTZMAN

STEVE DE SALVO, aka, AR

92-165 KNICKREHM

JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka, AR

92-257 HOLTZMAN

Purpose and results of contact

☐ NEGATIVE

☐ POSITIVE

[REDACTED] was contacted just prior to closing time on the early morning of 6/7/63 and arrangements made to meet him at the [REDACTED] at which time he furnished the following information:

FRANK BALISTRERI had spent the day at [REDACTED] in company with [REDACTED] and a member of the Teamsters Union named [REDACTED] (phonetic) who is an old Italian friend of BALISTRERI's. BALISTRERI was relaxed during the day and according to informant no significant information came to his attention as a result of this meeting.

Informant said that the situation in Milwaukee so far as "the outfit" is concerned remains dead and gambling is their only activity and even this is withering because there is no money

☐ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating:

Coverage

Personal Data

1 - 162-49

1 - 94-316

1 - 92-165

1 - 92-257

JAH/lmp

(5)

162-49-186

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 6 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

[REDACTED]

Le Grand - CKB

b6
b7C

MI [REDACTED]

passing. All the individuals are [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is really hurting since he was raided by IRS and is in bad financial shape.

b6
b7C
b7D

Kenosha continues to be closed down tight and RIZZO and COVELLI have not been known to come into Milwaukee according to the informant since he last reported their presence. Informant said he would immediately advise if either of these individuals showed up. The booking operation in Kenosha, according to this informant, is not doing very well.

With regard to the funeral services for JOE ALIOTO informant said that all of the Italians were very mad at the Police Department and the FBI for the coverage that was afforded this affair. Informant said that there was absolutely nobody of significance from a hoodlum standpoint in for the funeral as the word had been passed out that it would be covered and it was recommended that they not come. The only out of towners of significance at all was [REDACTED] and according to informant he is related in some way to the ALIOTOS. Most of the Illinois people that were at the funeral were relatives of ALIOTO's wife and they were from Chicago. Her maiden name was [REDACTED]

Informant was questioned as to relationship between [REDACTED] of Chicago. Informant said that these two individuals had formed a friendship while both were [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED] comes to Milwaukee several times a year usually for a "shack job with some gal from Chicago." He has no associates in Milwaukee known to the informant other than [REDACTED] whom he always contacts. [REDACTED] allegedly does not like Milwaukee.

Informant was questioned as to a party allegedly held by [REDACTED] at which [REDACTED] and a girl friend attended during 1962 and informant said that [REDACTED] has a very small apartment which would be completely inadequate for a party of any size and that he does not have parties at his residence.

On June 14, 1963 informant said that he had checked further on the possibility of the party referred to and found out that

MI [redacted]

b7D

there was no such party. Informant described [redacted] position in Chicago hoodlum operations as that of [redacted] and a very good one, particularly in the [redacted] industry. Though informant thinks that [redacted] was in Milwaukee the last time around the middle of December, 1962 he is not certain of the precise date and does not think that [redacted] is in any way connected with the BERNAT case.

b6
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b7D

F B I

Date: 6/27/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)
FROM: *QAZ* SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) 271542
WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA. AR. OO: MILWAUKEE.

RE MILWAUKEE TEL TO BUREAU JUNE TWENTYSIX LAST.

[] WHO ALLEGED WILLIAM COVELLI BROUGHT TWO
STRANGERS TO SEE BIERNAT IN NOVEMBER, SIXTYTWO, AND []
EYE WITNESS TO ABDUCTION OF ANTHONY BIERNAT, PASSED POLYGRAPH
EXAMINATIONS. [], WHO IS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN PRESENT
WHEN COVELLI BROUGHT STRANGERS TO SEE BIERNAT, REFUSED TO MAKE
ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS AND REFUSED POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION.

[] AND OTHER HOODLUMS, KENOSHA,
WISC., BEING LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED CONCERNING PRESSURE OF WILLIAM
COVELLI TO TAKE OVER GAMBLING IN KENOSHA, WISC., FROM NINETEEN
FORTYNINE TO DATE.

APL:bs
(1) *[Signature]*

b6
b7c

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 12:23 P M Per WCP

162-49-187

F B I

Date: 7/1/63

Transmit the following in RADIOGRAM
(Type in plain text or code)Via CODE URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA AR. OO: MILWAUKEE.

RE MILWAUKEE RAD ~~TO BUREAU~~ JUNE TWENTYEIGHT LAST.

[REDACTED] WHO APPROACHED THIS OFFICE WITH OFFER TO
FURNISH INFORMATION TO SOLVE BIERNAT CASE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HE ADMITTED HE WAS
PERSON WHO PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED INFORMATION ON THE MURDER-SEE
RERAD. WOULD NOT DISCUSS THE PREVIOUS INFORMATION, BUT TALKED
IN RIDDLES ABOUT [REDACTED] IT IS
BELIEVED HE WILL CONTACT THIS OFFICE AGAIN AFTER CHECKING WITH
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CONTACTED ON [REDACTED] AND BEING
DESIGNATED PCI UNDER TOP ECHELON PROGRAM. HE HEARD THAT [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WAS EYE WITNESS TO BIERNAT ABDUCTION.
HE BELIEVES [REDACTED] LOST HEAVILY TO GAMBLERS, BUT DOUBTS HE IS
UNDER PRESSURE FROM HOODS. INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY TO IDENTIFY
[REDACTED]

RCT/jah

(1)

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in ChargeSent 12:18 MPer [Signature]b6
b7C
b7D

162-49-188

F B I

Date: 6/27/63

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code).Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (162-236)

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka.
IGA

OO: Milwaukee

Re Milwaukee airtel dated 6/20/63.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
[redacted] on 6/26/63:On June 26, 1963, [redacted]
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, Room 1829, 324 East 11th,
was contacted.[redacted] furnished the following information concerning JOSE
S. AMADOR, who is currently a telephone company employee:

Born	5/19/09, Nicaragua, Central Amer.
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'7½"
Weight	164

[redacted] (born in USA)

4 - Milwaukee (2 - 162-49)
 (1 - 92-257)
 (1 - 94-316)
 3 - Kansas City (2 - 162-236)
 (1 - 92-326)

GFL:lp
(7)

162-49-189

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 28 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

Thompson

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
 Special Agent in Charge

b6
b7c

KC 162-236

Current residence	[redacted], Kansas City, Missouri
Present position	Elevator and air conditioning repairman, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
Citizenship	U. S. citizen by naturalization (Naturalization certificate #5609549, at Galveston, Tex.)

ADAMOR's personnel file reflects the following additional information:

AMADOR formerly resided at 2505 Benton Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri, and was formerly employed by the Kansas City Macaroni Company and the Kansas City Medical Depot and was a Private in the U. S. Army from July 27, 1942, to September 15, 1943. He has an 8th grade education. His salary with the telephone company at present is \$133 per week. He was originally hired by the telephone company as a janitor on July 14, 1947. He was promoted to the position of stationary engineer on March 13, 1955. On June 1, 1958, he was promoted to his present position.

[redacted] advised he is personally acquainted with AMADOR and furnished the following description:

Short, heavy set (obese), black hair, bald spot on top of head, dark complexion, appears to be of Italian extraction

[redacted] volunteered that in AMADOR's present position with the telephone company, it is doubtful that AMADOR would have ability to tap telephones or install special electronic equipment. [redacted] pointed out that AMADOR, through his long association with the telephone company, could possibly have picked up the ability to wire-tap if he had wanted to because the telephone company likes for its employees to be interested in other phases of telephone work besides their own jobs.

[redacted] advised that AMADOR was on sick leave from the telephone company from April 29, 1963, to May 20, 1963, because he was operated on for hemorrhoids. AMADOR is presently on vacation; he initially departed on June 9, 1963, and is due back to work on July 1, 1963. The record does not reflect where AMADOR went on vacation.

KC 962-236

For the information of the Milwaukee Division, it is to be noted that on 2/12/63, a reporter from the Kansas City Star who was inquiring about the wedding of [redacted] and the daughter of [redacted] mentioned that [redacted] maiden name was [redacted] (ph), and is [redacted] of BUSTER BALESTRERE. It is to be noted that records of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company reflect COVELLI's wife's maiden name was MARCACE.

b6
b7c

Kansas City will contact COVELLI and interview him subsequent to July 1, 1963.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington 25, D. C.

REPORT

of the

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

Identification Division

YOUR FILE NO. 162-49
 FBI FILE NO. 162-777
 LATENT CASE NO. 44122

June 26, 1963

TO: SAC, Milwaukee

RE: WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA
 IGA

REFERENCE: Letter 6-19-63
 EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: Milwaukee
 SPECIMENS: Six black rubber lifts
 Elimination fingerprints of William Covelli, Eleanor
 Virginia Covelli, [redacted]

b6
 b7C

Two latent fingerprints of value were found on lift #4 and one latent palm print was found on lift #1. The two latent fingerprints are identical with finger impressions of [redacted]. Palm prints for these four individuals are not available in our files for comparison purposes.

The fingerprints of the four individuals were searched through our main fingerprint file, but no identification was effected.

The specimens are enclosed.

Enc. (10)

162-49-190

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 27 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

John Edgar Hoover, Director

THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC [redacted]
FROM : SA William J. Higgins, Jr.
SUBJECT: [redacted] aka

DATE:

6/28/63

☐ CI ☐ SI

☐ PCI ☐ PSI

b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact	
Titles and File #s on which contacted 6/5/63, 6/9/63	
1GA (162-1)	
GIP 92-245	
WILLIAM COVELLI, 1GA 162-49	
JOSEPH GURERA, aka AR 92-257	
Purpose and results of contact	
<input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive	<p>PCI on 6/5/63 advised that he had learned that several of the local Kenosha gamblers are going to [redacted] located in the vicinity of [redacted] in Lake County, Illinois, to obtain results of horse races as there is allegedly a "wire" located in that spot. As best can be learned this is a [redacted]</p> <p>PCI stated that certain horse book operations in Kenosha are very active headed by [redacted] who take only small bets and as matter of practice do not "lay off" to anyone. Most of these "book" operations involve taverns in Kenosha, and [redacted] does a considerable amount.</p> <p>On 6/9/63, PCI advised that he had heard WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI was in Greco's Restaurant with his wife for coffee shortly after 2:00AM on 6/7th and at the time never made any mention or seemed excited by his alleged abduction which was revealed over that weekend. PCI said that it was no syndicate job and COVELLI knew [redacted] Security Informant certified that he had furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.</p>
Personal Data	Rating Coverage V.G.

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b7C
b7D

b6
b7C

1 - 1GA (162-1)
1 - GIP (92-245)
1 - 162-49
1 - 92-257

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
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FBI - MILWAUKEE

2-49-191

Page 2.

done in hoodlum circles. PCI said it appeared to be a "put-up" job by COVELLI and his crowd in Milwaukee to put the FBI on the spot and take the "heat" off of themselves. PCI said that there is very little talk about the matter amongst the West Side crowd which if it had been legitimate would not be the case and plenty of others would be having the "jitters" out of fear for themselves.

PCI said that Kenosha is still shut down as far as known except for horse book and probably some of the professional gamblers themselves getting together on sneak games but there are no "open" games in craps or poker at present.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC MILWAUKEE [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/27/63

FROM : SA RICHARD C. THOMPSON
SA CARLYLE N. REED

☐ CI ☐ SI
☒ PCI ☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact	
6/18/63	
Titles and File #s on which contacted	
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka, IGA	162-49
Purpose and results of contact	
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE	
<p>Informant said he heard that [REDACTED] in Illinois was familiar with the Kenosha area and might be a logical suspect in the COVELLI abduction. Informant said he had forgotten the man's name but knew how to find it and he thought he would get in touch with him and talk to him generally about the COVELLI matter.</p> <p>On the night of 6/18/63 [REDACTED] called to say that he had located [REDACTED] Illinois [REDACTED] Informant talked to this man on the phone and learned that he was [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] found out that [REDACTED] was the man who [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Very good
Personal Data	Coverage AR

b6
b7C
b7D

1- [REDACTED]
1- 162-49

RCT/kaj
(2)

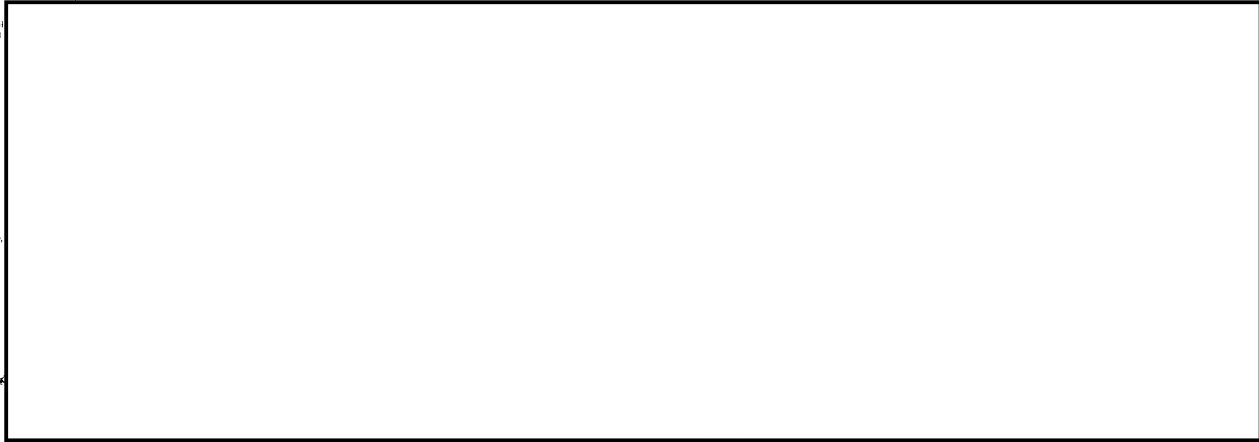
162-49-192

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 28 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

b7D

MI [REDACTED]

b7D



b6
b7C
b7D

Informant said that he would like to contact [REDACTED] personally some time but [REDACTED] indicated that [REDACTED] Informant desired that, in the event [REDACTED] interviewed, no direct mention be made of the above conversation.

Miscellaneous

Informant also said that he learned that about two years ago the [REDACTED]



F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)
FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) 021541
WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA AR. OO: MILWAUKEE.

RE MILWAUKEE RADS JUNE TWENTYSIX AND TWENTYSEVEN AND
JULY ONE.

[REDACTED] KENOSHA GAMBLER, STATED HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF
ABDUCTION OF WIFE AND DAUGHTER OF A KENOSHA GAMBLER TO FORCE LATTER
TO GIVE HIS BUSINESS TO COVELLI. [REDACTED] IS UNMARRIED AND ONLY SISTER
IS LONG TIME RESIDENT OF ILL.

[REDACTED] VERIFIED THAT
LATTER IS SINGLE AND HAS LIVED IN [REDACTED] HOME FOR YEARS. SHE
DISCLAIMED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF ABDUCTION IN PARAGRAPH ABOVE. HUSBAND
VERIFIED.

[REDACTED] IDENTIFIED AS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WHO SAID HE WAS DRUNK AND DID NOT [REDACTED] ON NIGHT OF
BIERNAT MURDER. AGREED TO POLYGRAPH TEST.

RCT:bs
(1) *[Signature]*

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent *[Signature]*

M

Per *[Signature]*

b6
b7c

162-49-193

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC MILWAUKEE [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/28/63

FROM : SA RICHARD C. THOMPSON

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

PCI

b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact

6/20/63 by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND

Titles and File #s on which contacted

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka., IGA

162-49

Purpose and results of contact

☐ NEGATIVE

☐ POSITIVE

Informant was contacted in an effort to determine whether there was any truth to a rumor that in 1952 WILLIAM COVELLI abducted the wife and daughter of [REDACTED] of Kenosha and released them after [REDACTED] promised to turn his business over to COVELLI.

Informant said that [REDACTED] was not and had never been married to his knowledge. He further stated that some years ago, exact date not recalled, [REDACTED] DOMINIC PRINCIPE and WILLIAM COVELLI ran a gambling game at 2207 - 56th Street, Kenosha. Subsequently COVELLI bought out [REDACTED]. Thereafter JOHN RIZZO came down to Kenosha and got into this gambling spot with COVELLI. Just how PRINCIPE got out of the business informant did not know.

Informant said that [REDACTED] later had [REDACTED] called the [REDACTED] in Kenosha. He did

☐ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

Very Good

Coverage

AR, Gambling

Personal Data

b7D

1 - [REDACTED]
1 - 162-49
RCT:jb
(2)

162-49-194

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 1 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

AP [REDACTED]

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b7C

MI [REDACTED]

some booking there and took bets from a bunch of men in Illinois who tried to break him by "feeding him steam," that is, making bets on which they felt [REDACTED] was sure to lose money. Informant said that things did not turn out that way. The "steam" wasn't steam at all and [REDACTED] made a lot of money on the Illinois gamblers. Informant said that this gambling activity "fattened up" [REDACTED] that is, he made a lot of money on the Illinois men.

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b7D

Informant said he had never heard a rumor to the effect that COVELLI had abducted anyone.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC MILWAUKEE [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/28/63

FROM : SA RICHARD C. THOMPSON

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

PCI

b7D

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b7D

Dates of Contact 6/21/63		
Titles and File #s on which contacted WILLIAM COVELLI, aka. IGA 162-49		
Purpose and results of contact <input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE Informant said he was not acquainted with WILLIAM COVELLI and had heard nothing concerning his alleged abduction. He said, however, that he knew of JOHN RIZZO as a gambler. He related the following incident: About four years ago when PCI [REDACTED] [REDACTED] apparently liked to gamble. On one occasion [REDACTED] came to the informant and told him he had lost a lot of money at some place on the northeast side in Milwaukee and RIZZO was trying to collect from him. Informant thought that the sum may have been as much as [REDACTED] wanted to know whether informant had any advice for him. Informant said he told [REDACTED] but he never heard the outcome.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Good	Coverage AR
Personal Data		

b6
b7C
b7D

b7D

b6
b7C

1 162-49
RCT:jb
(2)

①
② Le Grand, AR
98

MI [REDACTED]

b7D

Miscellaneous

Informant said that [REDACTED] was alleged to be part owner of [REDACTED]. He also said that he was personally acquainted with FRANK PETER BALISTRERI, having gotten acquainted with him when both informant and BALISTRERI [REDACTED]. Informant said he had no connection with BALISTRERI and he denied that he had ever [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] Informant recalls, purely as a matter of interest and not necessarily in connection with FRANK BALISTRERI, that about 10 years ago a man named [REDACTED] used to hang around town and spend a lot of money. [REDACTED] according to rumor at that time, was [REDACTED] in other cities but lived in Milwaukee. He would be about [REDACTED] years of age, 5'6" or 5'7" tall and of medium build - weighing perhaps 140 lbs.

b6
b7C
b7D

Informant said that he had [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] be made available to the FBI. Informant said that he felt confident that he would be the first to learn of such hoodlum activities and he would keep this office advised.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/29/63

FROM : SA JOHN A. HOLTZMAN

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

PCI

b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact		
6/10, 21/63		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
FRANK PETER BALISTRIERI, aka, AR	94-316 HOLTZMAN	
[REDACTED], aka, AR	92-226 C HOLTZMAN	
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka, IGA	162-49 [REDACTED]	
DOMINIC FRINZI, aka, AR	92-222 C	
"THE OFFICE"	165-107 LE GRAND	
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
On 6/10/63 informant was shown a large number of photographs of Milwaukee Italian hoodlums and their associates with the following results. Those names followed by an asterisk indicate that the informant knows the individual by name as well as photograph:		
[REDACTED] AUGIE MANIACI* PHIL ALDERISIO [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] JOE GAGLIANO* JOHN RIZZO [REDACTED]	
All of these individuals have been seen by informant at one time or another at [REDACTED]		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Very Good	Coverage Hoodlum Matters
Personal Data		SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____ SERIALIZED _____ FILED _____ JUN 29 1963 FBI - MILWAUKEE Le Grand [Signature]

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

1 - 94-316
1 - 162-49
JAH/lmp
(6)

1 - 92-226
1 - 92-222
1 - 165-107

①
②

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____ FILED _____
JUN 29 1963
FBI - MILWAUKEE
Le Grand [Signature]

b6
b7C

162-49-196

MI [REDACTED]

Informant examined a photo of [REDACTED] Racine, Wisconsin PD [REDACTED] and said that this individual could probably be identical with a party who had recently been in [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] looking for FRANK in a "desperate sort of a way." Informant sent him to JOE BALISTRERI who apparently knew where FRANK was. JOE sent this individual out apparently to contact FRANK. Informant said that the party was dressed as a mechanic but was driving a Cadillac.

The informant furnished the following additional information relative to a meeting that FRANK BALISTRERI had with [REDACTED] and an individual connected with the Teamsters Union who is a close association of [REDACTED] also of this union. Informant believes this individual's name is [REDACTED] (phonetic). This meeting, which took place on [REDACTED] at [REDACTED], had to do with jukebox operation [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

As to DOMINIC FRINZI, informant said that he is now [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On June 21, 1963 on which date informant was paid \$25, informant furnished the following information:

[REDACTED] who resides at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] had previously [REDACTED] as informant had advised. He is supposed to be [REDACTED]

Informant feels that [REDACTED] may possibly be willing to furnish some information.

MI [REDACTED]

b7D

Informant said that FRANK BALISTRERI is [REDACTED]

is working at [REDACTED]

Informant feels that [REDACTED]

Informant said that FRANK BALISTRERI has been [REDACTED]

he was in with [REDACTED] and thereafter the two of them went out together. They seemed to have something serious on their minds.

b6
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] has not been around much apparently spending a good part of his time on the golf course and [REDACTED]

Another young Italian who is in there frequently visiting with [REDACTED] (LNU), also [REDACTED] believed by informant to be [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is believed by informant to run a bar in the neighborhood exact location unknown.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC [redacted]

DATE: 6/28/63

FROM : SA William J. Higgins, Jr.

☒ CI ☐ SI

b7D

☐ PCI ☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [redacted]

Dates of Contact

6/27/63

Titles and File #s on which contacted

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka TGA 162-49

Purpose and results of contact

☒ Negative
☐ Positive

Informant advised that [redacted] know anything of the activities of the hoodlum element in Kenosha, Wis. area and while he heard from [redacted] of COVELLI'S allegations of being abducted on the night of June 6th, 1963, only heard of this recently and as a matter of gossip. Informant said that [redacted] he will remain alert to any "talk" regarding this matter and pass on any data of pertinent interest.

b6
b7C
b7D

☐ Security Informant certified that he had furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Personal Data

Rating

V.G.

Coverage

Same

1 - 162-49

1 -

162-49-197

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 2 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

Handwritten: [signature]

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC MILWAUKEE [REDACTED]

DATE: 7/1/63

FROM : SA RICHARD C. THOMPSON

☐ CI ☐ SI

☒ PCI ☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

PCI

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact		
6/21/63		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka., IGA		162-49
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
Informant stated on late afternoon of 6/21/63 that he had checked with [REDACTED] at about 4:00 p.m. that day and had learned that WILLIAM COVELLI did not take a polygraph test as previously scheduled. Informant said that [REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]		
Informant also said that he learned that COVELLI had furnished three license numbers to the Kenosha, Wisconsin PD, which licenses were observed on cars seen in the vicinity of COVELLI's home. One of the licenses was registered to an [REDACTED] in Superior, Wisconsin. Another was registered to a woman located near Madison and the informant could not recall to whom the third license was registered.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Very Good	Coverage Anti-Racketeering
Personal Data		

b6
b7C
b7D

b7D

1 - [REDACTED]
1 - 162-49
RCT:jfb
(2)

162-49-198

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 1 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

LeGrand

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/23/63

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] aka

b7D

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact

6/25/63

Titles and File #s on which contacted

WILLIAM COVELLI	NY 162-49	[REDACTED]
ANTHONY DIERNAT	NY 92-257	(HOLTZMAN)
CID	NY 92-145	(THOMPSON)
IGA	NY 162-1	[REDACTED]
ORGANIZED CRIME (RACINE COUNTY)	NY 92-255	(THOMPSON)

b6
b7C

Purpose and results of contact

☒ NEGATIVE

☐ POSITIVE

PCI expressed opinion the alleged abduction of COVELLI is a hoax he devised to "take the heat off himself." PCI not acquainted with COVELLI nor was he acquainted with DIERNAT, and he could furnish no definite information concerning either. PCI said that, to his knowledge, COVELLI does not operate in Racine County. He recalled that one (FNU) [REDACTED] was a big time hoodlum in Chicago and suggested possibly WILLIAM COVELLI is tied in with the Chicago COVELLI. PCI has no knowledge of any such relationship.

Concerning his own background, PCI advised [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

☐ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

Coverage

Criminal (general)

Personal Data

1 - NY 92-145
1 - NY 92-255
1 - NY 92-257
1 - NY 162-1
① - NY 162-49

CFA:EAK
(6)

162-49-199
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JUL 2 1963
FBI - NEW YORK

① LeGrand
② [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

NI [REDACTED]

b7D

they were associated with [REDACTED] a Chicago racket figure whom informant believes is identical with (END) [REDACTED] or possibly the name is (END) [REDACTED] This individual was said by PCI to [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

PCI said [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PCI said Racine County is free of gambling, prostitution and racket operations, and those inclined to participate in such vice invariably seek it out in Kenosha where it is allegedly widespread.

He said DAVE SHEFT or DAVE SEFT was formerly the biggest bookie in Racine, but that SHEFT is not doing anything at the present time.

[REDACTED]

PCI also acknowledged that he is [REDACTED] He is [REDACTED]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (162-49)

DATE: 7/1/63

FROM : SA RICHARD C. THOMPSON

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA

In the course of investigating the alleged abduction of COVELLI on 6/6/63, it was learned from [redacted] whose identity should be protected that the following incident occurred in about 1949. [redacted] learned of this through an informant, who is no longer available.

b6
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The gambling spot operated by RIZZO and COVELLI at 2207 56th Street, Kenosha, was also a gambling spot in 1949. It was allegedly run then by [redacted] who now operates [redacted] in Kenosha. The wife and daughter (or possibly sister and daughter) of one of the partners in the above gambling joint (presumably [redacted] or [redacted] were abducted and held at gunpoint by some hoods (presumably not Kenosha men,) who telephoned the gambler (husband or brother of the abducted woman) and told him that the woman and girl were O.K. and would be released this time, but next time it would be different. This threat was made to force the gambler to turn his gambling interest in the above gambling joint over to WILLIAM COVELLI, which he did.

b6
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So far there has been no verification of this story.

Investigation also disclosed that on 4/15/61, JOHN CHARLES RIZZO was robbed at his home by a masked man, who took RIZZO's car and presumably \$780 in cash. The man appeared at RIZZO's house at about 3:30 A.M., cut the telephone wires, covered [redacted] with a gun, and waited for RIZZO to come home. He then held up RIZZO and left in the car, saying he would leave it on Highway 38.

b6
b7C

RCT;ah
(5)

1-92-164

162-49-200

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 1 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

Holzman

MI 162-49

RIZZO made no complaint, but a complaint was made to the Racine S.O. by a private detective who had been hired by RIZZO three weeks previously to check the house three times each night and to break in if he did not observe a car in a certain window. Interview of [] by Racine S.O. substantiated the robbery up to the point where RIZZO drove into the garage. Interview of RIZZO substantiated the robbery, but RIZZO denied that the masked man took any money. RIZZO later found his car on Highway 38 in Oak Creek. About eight months later, a man named [] was arrested by the Milwaukee P.D. The P.D. interviewed [] who said that [] robbed [] of Kenosha and []

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

LEADS

At Kenosha

Re Abduction of woman and daughter

1. Will interview [] concerning this, noting that he was previously interviewed by SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND and RICHARD C. THOMPSON and that he admitted having had an interest in the gambling joint at 2207 56th Street until 1949. Will ascertain whether [] lives with his sister and establish her identity [] told interviewing agents previously that he lived with his sister, but that interview took place before interview of []

b6
b7C
b7D

2. Will interview [] (sister and her daughter concerning the incident

3. Will interview [] concerning the incident, and at the same time find out when he disposed of his interest in the gambling joint at 2207 56th Street. Also find out what he knows about the history of that place since he left it.

b6
b7C

4. Interview [] wife and daughter concerning the abduction incident.

5. Interview ALBERT ALBANA and any other hoods that have been connected with the gambling joint at 2207 56th Street.

MI 162-49

Re Rizzo's Robbery

1. Will interview JOHN C. RIZZO concerning the robbery, reason for making no complaint, reason for private detective agency and reason for denying that any money was taken from him
2. Interview RIZZO concerning the abduction story involving the wife and daughter of a gambler

Re Informants

1. SA HIGGINS will contact [redacted] concerning both the above stories. It should be noted that [redacted], PCI, has already been interviewed about the abduction of the woman and daughter, but any other logical PCIs should also be interviewed.

b6
b7C
b7D

F B I

Date: 7/3/63

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plain text or code)Via RADIOGRAM URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM : SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA, AR. OO: MILWAUKEE.

RE MILWAUKEE RADS JULY ONE AND TWO, LAST.

AUGUST MANIACI AND ASSOCIATES IN STATE FORGERY CASE WERE
BOUND OVER TO TRIAL ON DENIAL OF MOTION FOR DISMISSAL. ON JULY
EIGHT, NEXT, TRIAL DATE WILL BE SET BUT TRIAL NOT EXPECTED FOR
ANOTHER MONTH OR TWO. ABOVE PERTAINS TO MATTER DISCUSSED BY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PCI, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HAS NOT RECONTACTED

THIS OFFICE BY JULY EIGHT, NEXT, ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO REINTERVIEW
HIM ON ALL PHASES OF THIS MATTER. IT IS BELIEVED PSYCOLOGICALLY
ADVANTAGEOUS TO ALLOW [REDACTED] SOME TIME TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH
[REDACTED] AND TO CONTACT THIS OFFICE IF HE DESIRES.

INFORMANTS CONTACTED AND MOST LOGICAL INFORMANTS CONTACTED
NUMEROUS TIMES REGARDING COVELLI ABDUCTION WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

RCT:sbt
(1) *sbt*Approved: _____
Special Agent in ChargeSent *12/5 P* M Per *gk*

162-49-201

b6
b7C
b7D

F B I

Date: 7/5/63

Transmit the following in RADIOGRAM
(Type in plain text or code)Via CODE URGENT
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

WILLIAM COVELLI, AKA. IGA. OO: MILWAUKEE. 051528

RE MILWAUKEE RAD JULY THREE LAST.

NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING ALLEGED COVELLI ABDUCTION,
AND SUBSTANTIALLY ALL INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED. REPORT WILL BE P
PREPARED. UACB DAILY RADS WILL BE REPLACED BY WEEKLY AIRTEL SUMMARY.

INVESTIGATION AND REPORTING IN THIS MATTER HAVE BEEN PRONE
TO CROSS OVER INTO BIERNAT MURDER AND OTHER HOODLUM ACTIVITIES.
HEREAFTER, EXTRANEIOUS INFORMATION WILL NOT BE REPORTED BUT WILL BE
SUBMITTED UNDER PROPER CAPTION, FOR EXAMPLE, BY WEEKLY SUMMARY
AIRTEL IN CASE ENTITLED JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, AKA, AR, WHICH COVERS
INVESTIGATION OF BIERNAT MURDER.

RCT:bs
(1)Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 1216/p M

Per g

162-49-202

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Milwaukee (162-49)

DATE: 7/5/63

FROM : SA RICHARD C. THOMPSON

SUBJECT: WILLIAM C. COVELLI, aka
IGA

On 6/26/63, [redacted] Kenosha SO, informed SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND and RICHARD C. THOMPSON that [redacted] had written numerous letters to Chief of Police STANLEY HAUKE DAHL regarding gambling in Kenosha on the basis of which [redacted] had taken no action. [redacted] said that [redacted] had copies of his letters and would undoubtedly make them available if contacted.

b6
b7C

RCT:bs
(1)

162-49-203
5
LeGrand
A/R

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Milwaukee [REDACTED]

DATE: June 30, 1963

FROM : SA (A) Albert G. Macdonald

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ X PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact June 25, 1963

Titles and File #s on which contacted

WILLIAM COVELLI

162-49

ANTHONY J. BIERNAT

92-257

Purpose and results of contact

☒ NEGATIVE

☐ POSITIVE

WILLIAM J. COVELLI

[REDACTED] stated that he knew nothing regarding the alleged COVELLI abduction other than what he has read in the paper. He stated that none of the gamblers in town whom he knows, has made any mention of the abduction, and he has no idea who may have been responsible. He stated that he of course does not believe that he could have been done by any FBI agent

b6
b7C
b7D

ANTHONY J. BIERNAT

[REDACTED] stated that none of the Italian gamblers or others whom he knows has made any mention of the BIERNAT murder and none have made any indication that they were responsible or knew who is responsible.

Stated that he can not talk business over the telephone at [REDACTED]

☐ Info furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Good

AR

Personal Data

162-49-204
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIAL 8

1- 162-49
1 92-257
AGM (3)

b6
b7C

File _____ Class. _____ Case No. _____ Last Serial _____ Date _____

☐ Pending

☐ Closed

Serial No. _____ Description of Serial _____ Date Charged _____

205 F.C. memo to Mpi 7/3/63

Transferred to 92-166-238

Employee _____

RECHARGE

Date _____

To _____ From _____

Date charged _____

Employee _____

Location _____

REPORT
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: FBI, Milwaukee
Re: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA

Date: July 8, 1963
FBI File No. 162-777
Lab. No. D-424994 HW

Specimens received 6-21-63

Q1 and Q2 Two plaster casts of tire impressions

Q3 One plaster cast of small parallel markings

Q4 Four photographs of miscellaneous tire tracks

ALSO SUBMITTED: Miscellaneous photographs

Result of examination:

The design noted in the Q1 and Q2 casts and in the Q4 photographs of the miscellaneous tire tracks resembles a design used by the Super Mold Corporation, Lodi, California. This corporation recaps tires. With the information available in the Laboratory, neither the size of the tire involved nor the type of car involved could be determined from the cast impressions.

No particular design was noted on the Q3 cast.

The submitted material is being returned separately.

162-49-206



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: FBI, Milwaukee (162-49)

Date: July 8, 1963

Re: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. 162-777
Lab. No. D-424994 HW

Examination requested by: Milwaukee

Reference: Letter 6-19-63

Examination requested: Document

Remarks:

It should be noted that many of the molds used by the Super Mold Corporation are molds which have been previously used by other tire manufacturers and for one reason or another were sold to the Super Mold Corporation.

The submitted negatives are being returned separately and, as requested, two prints of each negative are also being enclosed with the negatives.

5
Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

162-49-207
5-15
② [Redacted Box] [Signature]
with [Signature]
① Le Grand [Signature]

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Milwaukee [redacted]

DATE: 7/10/63

FROM : SA [redacted]

☐ CI ☐ SI

☒ PCI ☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [redacted]

b7D

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C

Dates of Contact		6/24/63 by SAs [redacted]	
Titles and File #s on which contacted			
AL ALBANA, aka "Cadillac AL" AR	92-316	[redacted]	
JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka AR	92-257	HOLTZMAN	
JOHN CHARLES RIZZO, AR	92-164	[redacted]	
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka IGA	162-49	[redacted]	
JEFF COVELLI	92-317		
[redacted]	ITAR-Prostitution	166-37	[redacted]
Purpose and results of contact		IGA	162-1
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE	CIP	92-145	THOMPSON
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE	CRIME CONDITIONS in Kenosha	92-255	THOMPSON
<p>PCI advised that JOHN CHARLES RIZZO has not been seen in the Kenosha area recently at public places, although he might have paid infrequent visits to personal friends residing in the area. PCI has heard of various "games" that have been played in Kenosha, but PCI is of the belief that these are not in any way officially sanctioned games but that they are just games among the regular group of gamblers who play because they are close friends and associates. PCI stated that no word has been received that JOHN RIZZO and WILLIAM COVELLI are, in fact, booking, but PCI has heard that RIZZO frequents the race tracks in the</p>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating	Coverage	
	Very good	IGA; CIP; AR; Crime Conditions	
Personal Data		162-49-208	

1-92-316 1-92-257 1-92-164
1-162-49 1-92-317 1-166-37
1-162-1 1-92-145 1-92-255

EFF:bs
(10)

b6
b7C

MI [REDACTED]

Chicago, Illinois, area and that on or about Thursday, June 20, he was supposed to have been at the Arlington Track. PCI advised that she had heard that RIZZO was reportedly placing large bets at the track, but nothing to indicate the operation of any book at this time.

PCI advised that [REDACTED] a local gambler, and AL ALBANA one day were talking about the alleged abduction of BILL COVELLI, and AL at the time reportedly told [REDACTED] that he did not believe the abductors of COVELLI were Milwaukee people as the Milwaukee people have always said that if BILL COVELLI needs help that he should contact them. PCI advised

b6
b7C
b7D

PCI stated that WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI does not spend as much time as he formerly did at [REDACTED] but keeps considerably more to himself. PCI further stated on either Wednesday or Thursday, June 19 or 20, [REDACTED] of Milwaukee came down to see WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI for several hours and that they were rumored to have been closeted on the premises of the Konosha Vending Co., which is located next door to Groco's Restaurant.

PCI advised that JEFF COVELLI, brother of WILLIAM COVELLI,

[REDACTED] JEFF COVELLI is said to be "running around" with [REDACTED] inasmuch as they have been seen together recently. PCI advised that she heard WILLIAM COVELLI was out of town Wednesday, June 19, and for over-night, and that COVELLI and a number of individuals whom she did not know had gone somewhere to play golf.

PCI stated that about a week ago at the time she was going into [REDACTED] she observed WILLIAM COVELLI meeting with two men, one of whom was an older dark-haired, dark-complexioned man, and the other individual was a young, blond-haired man who was well tanned and appeared to be with the older man. PCI advised she did not know either of these individuals and believed they were from out of town. She stated she would endeavor to ascertain their identity if at all possible.

0-4

Invoice of Contents from
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

WILLIAM COVELLI,
aka IGA

Date 7-8-63

Case References 162-777

Consigned to: SAC, Milwaukee

urlet 6-19-63,

APL/jb

All items listed below are contained in this package. A detailed description of the items will be found in Bureau communication dated 7-8-63, # D-424994. HW

Q1
Q3
Q4

ALSO SUBMITTED
REGISTERED MAIL

162-49-209

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 10 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

7/11/63

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (92-4690)

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (92-257)

JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, AKA. AR. OO: MILWAUKEE.

BUREAU AWARE OF GRAND JURY SCHEDULED JULY SIXTEEN NEXT.

AFTER SA RELATES CIRCUMSTANCES OF CAPTIONED CASE, USA AND POSSIBLY
SAAG WALTER BARNES PLAN TO CALL [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WEISER COVELLI; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BARNES AND USA DESIRE

b6
b7C
b7D

SA'S THIS OFFICE TO SERVE SUBPOENAS ON COVELLI AND [REDACTED] AND

UACB THIS WILL BE DONE ON MONDAY, JULY FIFTEEN.

SUBJECT KNOWN TO POSSESS FIREARMS. CONSIDER ARMED AND
DANGEROUS.

1-162-49 (WILLIAM COVELLI)
1-165-18 (VERNON HILLS COUNTRY CLUB)
JAH:bs
(3)

162-49-210

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED 55	FILED 1
JUL 11 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

Le Grand

b6
b7C

Post Office Box 663
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
July 12, 1963

MI 162-49

Honorable James B. Brennan
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Attention:
Assistant United States Attorney

b6
b7c

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the request of
this date I am enclosing herewith a copy of my letter of
June 17, 1963, to Mr. Walter Barnes and the enclosures
thereto.

This letter and memoranda contain neither
recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. They are
the property of the FBI and are loaned to you; neither
these documents nor their contents are to be distributed
outside your agency.

Very truly yours,

PAUL H. STODDARD
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures (3)

JAH:EF
(3)

ef *PH*

162-49-211

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Milwaukee [redacted]

DATE: 7/11/63

b7D

FROM : SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM

☒ CI ☐ SI

☐ PCI ☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [redacted]

Dates of Contact		6/27/63	
Titles and File #s on which contacted			
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka IGA		162-49	[redacted]
JOHN CHARLES RIZZO, AR		92-164	[redacted]
[redacted] ITWI		165-19	LE GRAND
[redacted] aka; [redacted] ITWI		165-73	[redacted]
[redacted] IGA		162-13	[redacted]
[redacted] ITAR		166-28	[redacted]
Purpose and results of contact	[redacted] ITWP	168-60	[redacted]
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE			
<p>Informant stated that with regard to COVELLI and RIZZO that they are still booking but not at the race track. He advised that RIZZO has a book in Racine and also one in Kenosha but believes that the one in Kenosha is also a part of COVELLI's book. He advised, however, that he doesn't know where they are located nor does he have their telephone number. He stated that their crap game has completely closed down, and he has no idea when it will reopen.</p> <p>He advised that [redacted] is not booking with [redacted] but has a separate book of his own and believes he is booking out of his place of business. [redacted] which is located at [redacted]. He advised, however, that [redacted] book is small.</p>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating	Coverage	
	Excellent	Gambling	
Personal Data			

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

1-162-49 1-92-164 1-165-19
1-165-73 1-162-13 1-166-28
ABK:bs 1-168-60

(8)

b6
b7C

162-49-212

MI [redacted]

b7D

With regard to [redacted] booking, he advised that both of their books are very small. He stated that [redacted] book is with [redacted] primarily and is done at the [redacted]

With regard to [redacted] booking, he stated that [redacted] still is booking but believes he has someone working his book for him. He stated that [redacted] lives [redacted] and that he uses [redacted]. He advised that [redacted] and occasionally takes action for him.

b6
b7C
b7D

With regard to [redacted] he advised that he knows nothing about them and just vaguely recalls hearing their names. He stated he knows nothing about any booking operation by these individuals.

With regard to [redacted] he stated that to the best of his knowledge [redacted] still was not back in town.

Informant stated that [redacted] gives [redacted]

With regard to abduction of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI, he advised that all the conversation he has heard leads to the opinion that COVELLI set up this abduction himself in order to take the heat off him and to get public sympathy.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

DATE: 7/10/63

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (162-277)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA

Re Milwaukee airtels to Chicago dated 5/8/63, 6/10/63, and 6/15/63.

Enclosed herewith are 8 copies of an FD-302 reflecting interview with [redacted] June 24, 1963, at Downers Grove, Illinois.

b6
b7C

Nine (9) copies of an FD-302 of [redacted] of Executive Auto Leasing, Incorporated, at 6501 North Western Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on June 26, 1963.

Ten (10) copies of an investigative insert conducted by SA [redacted] at Sterling, Illinois, concerning telephone number [redacted] listed to [redacted]

Investigation at Waukegan, Illinois, concerning Sheriff CHARLES LARSON, police agencies in the Waukegan area, and private detectives in that area who have cars equipped with red light and siren disclosed the following:

Sheriff CHARLES LARSON, Lake County, Illinois, advised on June 18, 1963, that four or five years ago he investigated a series of fires at the Hawthorn Melody Farms operated by [redacted] and at that time [redacted] employed one [redacted] (first name unknown), to investigate the fires. [redacted] drove a 1957 or 1958 Cadillac equipped with a red light and was considered a real "wierdo." LARSON discovered that [redacted] was also a smoke inspector for the City of Chicago and was presumably the same [redacted] who received publicity in connection with slum realty operations in which professional major league baseball players were involved. [redacted] and [redacted]

② - Milwaukee (Enc. 27)
1 - Chicago

FMH:ptc:knh
(3)

162-49-213
35
① Le Grand
② [redacted] (with 1 cc of encls)

CG 162-277

[redacted] Waukegan Police Department, stated that [redacted] of Accurate Detective Agency and [redacted] of Services Unlimited, neither own or operate a vehicle similar to the ones seen in this case. [redacted] is described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	Middle 30s
Height	5'11"
Weight	170 pounds
Build	Slender
Peculiarities	Immaculate dresser

[redacted] is described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'10"
Weight	220 pounds
Build	Stocky
Complexion	Dark, swarthy

[redacted] advised that private detectives are not authorized in Illinois to have cars equipped with red light and siren, neither [redacted] knew of anyone having a vehicle so equipped in the Waukegan area.

Investigation at Peotone, Illinois, Peotone Telephone Number [redacted] disclosed the following:

[redacted] Illinois Bell Telephone Company, Joliet, Illinois, advised SA [redacted] on June 19, 1963, that telephone numbers covering Peotone, Illinois are covered at Illinois Bell Telephone Company, Kankakee, Illinois, which is the Springfield Division.

It is left to the discretion of the Office of Origin to set forth a lead to Springfield Division.

CG 162-277

[redacted] (Protect Identity) [redacted]

[redacted] advised SA [redacted] who at that address on an independent matter, that [redacted]

[redacted] stated that on June 21, 1963, a man who identified himself as [redacted] and requested [redacted]

[redacted] advised [redacted] that the request was unusual and would have to be handled through [redacted] who was not at that time available. [redacted] then did not continue the request.

[redacted] stated that [redacted] indicated to [redacted] that [redacted]

Chicago continuing investigation as set out in Milwaukee airtel dated June 15, 1963.

b6
b7C
b7D

Covelli in Kidnap Probe

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

US Jury Calls Cov

US Jury Will Hear Covelli on 'Kidnap'

By JAMES G. WIEGHART

A Kenosha vending machine distributor who complained to the FBI that he was abducted and quizzed at gunpoint on the gangland slaying of Kenosha jukebox distributor Anthony J. Biernat, has been subpoenaed to appear before a federal grand jury hearing Tuesday morning.

William Covelli, 43, owner of the Kenosha Vending Co., will be questioned before the grand jury in the federal building on details of his reported abduction by two men last month, it was learned.

United States Atty. James B. Brennan Monday night refused to confirm or deny that Covelli had been subpoenaed to appear.

Brennan confirmed, however, that the grand jury will meet Tuesday morning, although the jury usually is summoned on the first Tuesday of each month.

"That doesn't mean this is a special meeting of the grand jury," Brennan explained. "The reason we are meeting in the middle of the month is because the grand jury room was tied

up on antitrust matters earlier this month and this was the first time the room has been available."

Brennan said he could not disclose who has been subpoenaed or what subject matter is under investigation. "I am prohibited by law from making such disclosures," he said. "The grand jury meets in secret and its deliberations are secret."

The FBI has been investigating the Biernat murder under orders of United States Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy. Biernat, 46, was abducted from the Kenosha North Shore line depot parking lot early last January. Three weeks later his body was found buried in the basement of a vacant farmhouse on the abandoned Bong air force base site.

The FBI has also been investigating Covelli's complaint that he was abducted by two men, handcuffed and driven to Biernat's burial site, where he was questioned at gunpoint on "who murdered Biernat."

Covelli, an acquaintance of Biernat's, said he told the men he knew nothing about Biernat's murder. He said the men released him unharmed several hours after the abduction.

Several witnesses told police and the FBI that they had seen two men in a dark car, pull Covelli's car over on a Kenosha street. Witnesses said Covelli left with the men in their car which was equipped with a siren and a red light.

Covelli told authorities that the men at first said they were FBI agents and later identified themselves as "friends of the FBI."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A1 Milwaukee Sentinel
Milwaukee
Wisconsin

cc sent Bureau

Date: 7/16/63
Edition: Morning
Author:
Editor: Harry Sonneborn
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Milwaukee

162-49-2114

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 16 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

US Grand Jury Hears Kenosha

William Covelli, 43, a Kenosha vending machine distributor, testified before a federal grand jury for five minutes Tuesday morning, reportedly about his story that he was abducted by two men last month and questioned about the slaying of Anthony J. Biernat. Covelli complained to Kenosha police and the FBI on June 7 that the men abducted him, drove him to Biernat's burial site at the abandoned Bong air force base and threatened him before releasing him.



Covelli had offered to take a lie test to back up his story. Covelli, his attorney, James M. Shellow, and United States Atty. James Brennan refused to discuss Covelli's testimony. He was scheduled to return for further questioning.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

B10 Milwaukee Journal

Milwaukee

Wisconsin

Date: 7/16/63

Edition: Latest

Author:

Editor: Lindsay Hoben

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Milwaukee

cc sent Bureau

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 17 1963	
FBI - MILWAUKEE	

162-49-215

7/11/63

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

To: Director, FBI (92-4650)
From: SAC, Milwaukee (92-257) P
Subject: JOSEPH FRANK GUERNA, aka
AR

OO: Milwaukee
WEEKLY AIRTEL

Efforts this week to prepare for Grand Jury on 7/16/63, as Bureau previously advised by Milwaukee airtel 6/19/63 captioned "WILLIAM COVELLI, HOODLUM ACTIVITIES, Milwaukee Division, CH#10 162-777."

[redacted] who could conceivably be the most valuable witness before the Grand Jury, interviewed in an effort to establish existence of long distance phone calls and/or mail or personal threats by Chicago gamblers to collect from [redacted]. Several potential significant calls and contacts related by [redacted] being checked.

b6
b7C

On 7/10/63, USA JAMES B. BRENNAN contact [redacted] with request that [redacted] call him back. Purpose not stated to [redacted] but was to point out to [redacted] the desirability of his voluntarily furnishing information to this office to avoid undesirable publicity attendant on Grand Jury appearance and possible criminal proceedings as a result of his past activities.

[redacted] has not returned the call, but PCI [redacted] advised on 7/11/63 that at approximately 11:30 P.M. 7/10/63, [redacted]

[redacted] and inquired whether [redacted] had been in. He then waited, and [redacted] shortly showed up and [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

3 Bureau (AM)
1 Chicago (Info) (Regular Mail) (166-77)
3 Milwaukee (1-162-49 WILLIAM COVELLI
1-165-18 VERNON HILLS
COUNTRY CLUB)

JAH:b3
(7)

162-49-216

ME 02-257

[] shows up with [] or on behalf of [] at USA's office. no effort will be made to follow above plan. Instead, [] will simply be served with a Grand Jury subpoena.

b6
b7c

SUBJECT KNOWN TO BE IN POSSESSION OF FIREARMS. CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

7/26/63

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (162-777)
FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49) (P)
SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA
OO: MILWAUKEE

WEEKLY AIRTEL

No pertinent information has been received relating to the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI 6/7/63. PCI's and informants contacted state opinion exists among hoodlum element that COVELLI perpetrated hoax in making complaint on abduction in order to take heat off himself. On 7/16/63 [redacted] appeared before the U. S. Grand Jury at Milwaukee, Wisconsin and [redacted]

b3

3 - Bureau (AM)

1 - Milwaukee

APL/lmp
(4)

7

162-49-217

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MILWAUKEE (162-49)

DATE: 7/3/63

FROM : SA RICHARD C. THOMPSON

SUBJECT: WILLIAM COVELLI, aka
IGA

[redacted] Ill.
seemed very cooperative with SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND and
RICHARD C. THOMPSON on 6/26/63. His identity is being
withheld from reports in this case. In addition to working as
[redacted] is connected with

Chicago, Illinois. [redacted]

[redacted] said that [redacted]

[redacted] presumably knows
something about payoffs to the Kenosha PD by gamblers. There
is no indication that he knows anything about the BERNAT case
or other recent incidents.

RCT/kaj
(1) *kaj*

162-49-218

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 10 1963	

②

[redacted]

① Le Grand *alt*

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC **Milwaukee** [redacted]

FROM : SA **RICHARD C. THOMPSON**

SUBJECT: [redacted]

DATE: **7/11/63**

b7D

☐ CI ☐ SI
☒ PCI ☐ PSI

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact		
7/9/63		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka AR	92-257	HOLTZMAN
WILLIAM COVELLI, aka IGA	162-49	[redacted]
[redacted]	1-211	
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
92-257 and 1-211		
<p>Informant said that he was recently in contact with [redacted] of the John Doe investigation, and [redacted] told him that [redacted] contacted him recently and expressed willingness to be interviewed. [redacted] allegedly told [redacted] that he was busy with the John Doe and had no pending work pertaining to Kenosha and, therefore, suggested that [redacted] get in touch with PCI, who is [redacted]. It will be recalled from contact with this informant on 4/24/63, that [redacted] previously wanted [redacted].</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Very good	Coverage AR
Personal Data		

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

1-92-257 (1-162-49)
RCT:bs 1-1-211
(4)

⑥ [redacted]
① Le Grand

b6
b7C

MI [redacted]

b7D

Informant said that as a result of this he was in touch with [redacted] of Kenosha (also mentioned in contact of 4/24/63). [redacted] for PCI to [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted] mentioned in informant contact on 4/23/63.

Informant said that he intended to bear down on [redacted] and try to get information from him concerning criminal activity in Kenosha. He said he was not about to [redacted]

[redacted] He said that anything of value obtained would be made available on a confidential basis to the writer.

162-49

Informant called attention to the story that someone abducted the wife and daughter of a Kenosha gambler in order to promote the gambling interests of WILLIAM COVELLI a number of years ago. He said that when he heard this story from [redacted] Illinois (note that [redacted] has been interviewed as a result of the tip from PCI), he thought it rang a bell. He said he now thinks that he heard a similar story at one time from [redacted] of Waukesha. He said that [redacted] at one time. He suggested that [redacted] might be a good man to interview about the Kenosha situation and especially about this incident.

b6
b7C
b7D

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC [REDACTED]

DATE: 6/28/63

FROM : SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

PCI

b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact

6/18/63 by SAs KNICKREHM and LE GRAND

Titles and File #s on which contacted

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka, IGA

162-49 [REDACTED]

"THE OFFICE", IGA

162-107 LE GRAND

FRANK PETER BALISTRIERI, aka, AR

94-316 HOLTZMAN

BUSTER BALESTRERE, aka, AR

92-166 KNICKREHM

[REDACTED] IGA

162-48 C(KNICKREHM)

[REDACTED] ITWI

165-19 C [REDACTED]

Purpose and results of contact

STEVE DE SALVO, aka, AR

92-165 KNICKREHM

☐ NEGATIVE

[REDACTED] aka, ITWI

165-71 [REDACTED]

☐ POSITIVE

CIP

92-145 THOMPSON

IGA

162-1 [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

Informant advised that he had attempted to contact [REDACTED] a bookie in Kenosha, Wisconsin, recently since [REDACTED] He advised that he heard that [REDACTED] had left town and that no one seemed to know where he had gone.

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b7D

With regard to [REDACTED] he stated that [REDACTED] is now [REDACTED] out of [REDACTED] He stated that he is not sure of this but he believes that [REDACTED] is now getting the line. He advised that he doesn't know how [REDACTED] gets the line

☐ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

Coverage

Personal Data

162-49-220
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED

1 - 162-49

1 - 162-107

1 - 94-316

1 - 92-166

1 - 162-48

1 - 165-19

ABK/lmp

1 - 92-165

1 - 165-71

(11)

1 - 92-145

1 - 162-1

b6
b7C

MI [redacted]

b7D

[redacted] because he was in Chicago a few days ago and he contacted an individual there who he knows gets the line [redacted] and it was the same line as the one in Milwaukee. He stated that there is only one line coming into Milwaukee as far as he knows and that this is controlled by "the office" since they are getting it. [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

With regard to [redacted] he advised that [redacted] is an individual who goes around the country fading crap games and playing cards. He advised that he goes to various conventions and hustles at these crap games.

With regard to crap games around Milwaukee he stated that there are no organized crap games going on and if there were he would know about it. He advised, however, that there may be some special games on special occasions such as a stag party for someone getting married, etc. but that these are only on an occasional basis. With regards to [redacted]

Informant stated that he saw BUSTER BALESTRERE at [redacted] [redacted] on the evening of June 17, 1963 noting that [redacted] is operated by [redacted]. He advised that BUSTER BALESTRERE was with some little fat Italian and described this Italian as being about 50 years of age, 5'5", heavy build, on the paunchy side, bulging eyes, a bald spot on top of his head with dark hair around the edges. He advised that after BUSTER BALESTRERE

MI [redacted]

b7D

and this Italian left [redacted] inquired as to who this Italian was and that [redacted] said that he was from Kansas City. Informant stated that [redacted] didn't care to have anything to do with BUSTER. He advised that [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted] He stated that [redacted] turned up his nose and said he wanted nothing to do with those two.

With regard to [redacted] at [redacted] informant advised that he doesn't believe that they are [redacted] has told him on several occasions that if they come around [redacted] Informant stated that he knows [redacted] real well and, in fact, has a reason to go to [redacted] and will do so this week and find out what, if anything, is going on there.

With regard to [redacted] he advised that [redacted] is doing nothing in the way of gambling and that he is in debt and [redacted] He advised that [redacted] is disgusted about having gotten mixed up with "the outfit" in their booking operations at [redacted]

With regard to [redacted] he advised that [redacted] has got a very small book but that he is not doing much of anything in the way of gambling. With regard to [redacted] he advised that they seem to be very quiet, and he has heard nothing about them.

With regard to [redacted] he advised that [redacted] went to Las Vegas, Nevada on Friday, June 14, 1963 where he is betting. He advised that [redacted]

[redacted]. Informant advised that he is quite sure that [redacted] is the person who [redacted]

MI [REDACTED]

b7D

With regard to the abduction of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI, he advised that the only thing he knows is what he read about in the paper. He advised that he has been in no group where this incident was discussed. He stated that he has no idea as to who may have done this if, in fact, it was done. He surmised that it might be the Chicago syndicate who did this in order to test COVELLI's allegiance to the mob. He stated that this may have been done to others in Kenosha but that COVELLI was the only one who made a beef to his attorney.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
July 12, 1963

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 162-49

Memo

[redacted]
Kenosha, Wisconsin

BACKGROUND

Occupation

[redacted] operates [redacted]
company under his name but uses the address of [redacted]
[redacted] located at [redacted] Kenosha,
Wisconsin, which business he also operates as [redacted]
[redacted] He claims to handle only games such
as [redacted] although
he does have [redacted] in operation.

b6
b7C

Arrests

None known at this time and [redacted] has been
regarded only in the light of being a possible witness at
the time of investigation regarding the Anthony Biernat
abduction and killing. [redacted] at that time, admitted
to a prior minor arrest in Illinois, which charge against
him [redacted] said had been dismissed. Records of the
Kenosha, Wisconsin Police Department reflected that [redacted]
[redacted] born [redacted] was involved in automobile
accidents on the following dates: June 19, 1950; November 21,
1951; February 6, 1959; June 30, 1959; March 27, 1960;
September 27, 1960; April 22, 1963.

Associates

[redacted] is known to and knows of individuals
in the "Westside" hoodlum group of Kenosha, Wisconsin, but

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI.
It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its
contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

162-49-220A

X

there is no apparent indication of any close association or acquaintanceship with the hoodlum element. Associates of [] have been Anthony Biernat (deceased); Eddie Griffen, Sr., one time collector for Biernat and also now deceased: []

[] employee of the Lakeside Music Company, owned and operated by Anthony Biernat.

Past Activities

[] claims to have known Anthony Biernat since approximately 1947 and []

[] for Biernat []

[] especially when Eddie Griffen, Sr., who was dying of Cancer. []

[] Eddie Griffen, Sr. has since died. The Lakeside Music Company was solely owned by Anthony Biernat and was not set up as a corporation.

b6
b7C

DATA OF ASSISTANCE IN QUESTIONING THE SUBJECT

The Anthony Biernat Murder

During the course of interview in connection with the abduction and slaying of Anthony Biernat, [] stated that one day in November, 1962, Anthony Biernat told him that William "Weiser" Covelli had been in to see Biernat, at which time he was accompanied by two individuals whom Biernat identified as being [] and Steve De Salvo from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. [] said that according to Biernat, these individuals told Biernat that they were planning on going into the juke box business in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Biernat reportedly told them, "more power to you, it is a free country," after which these individuals asked, "do you want to get any bigger?" To this Biernat replied, "no." [] stated that these individuals then

reportedly asked Biernat what [] was doing. did he have machines of his own, and what was [] doing with [] juke boxes and games. [] stated that he was told by Biernat that with regard to their questions, they would have to talk to [] concerning that matter.

With regard to William "Weiser" Covelli's visit to Anthony Biernat when he was accompanied by [] and Steve De Salvo, [] stated that he and Tony Biernat discussed this visit on numerous occasions. [] advised, however, that their discussions always centered around their fear that these individuals were going to try to take their locations away from them. [] stated that neither he nor Biernat had ever expected anything such as a possible murder to take place over the operation of any juke box route.

b6
b7C

[] further stated that when he talked to Biernat about Covelli being in to see him, Tony Biernat appeared to be rather upset, and according to Biernat, Biernat claimed that he called Covelli the same afternoon that Covelli had been in to see him and requested Covelli to meet him at the Lakeside Music Company that afternoon. [] advised that Biernat was quite perturbed at the fact that Covelli had brought the individuals mentioned above in to see him with respect to the juke box business.

✓ [] during interview stated that he did not trust Fred "Jeff" Covelli, William Covelli's brother, adding that he thought "Jeff" was a "nut." [] expressed the belief, although he stated he had no proof for his conclusion, that he believed that William "Weiser" Covelli was in some way possibly responsible for Biernat's death or knew something concerning it.

Some individuals interviewed in connection with the Anthony Biernat abduction stated that they would have some reservation about [redacted] trustworthiness and stated that he was the type of individual who definitely looked out for himself. Some reference and indication was given that [redacted] might have been [redacted]

The William Covelli Abduction

[redacted] There is no known connection between [redacted] and the William Covelli abduction, which allegedly occurred June 6, 1963.

b6
b7C

Gambling Activities

There are no known gambling activities on the part of [redacted] at this time.

Payoffs or Shakedowns

During interview with [redacted] in connection with the Anthony Biernat abduction and slaying, there was no indication that he had ever paid off anyone in connection with [redacted] or that [redacted] had any knowledge of any such payoffs by anyone.

7/20/63

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI & SAC CHICAGO
FROM : SAC, MILWAUKEE (92-257)-P
SUBJECT : JOSEPH FRANK GURERA, aka
AR

WEEKLY SUMMARY AIRTEL

Grand Jury reconvened on 7/16/63

LEADS

CHICAGO DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois

Will furnish as promptly as possible:

3-Bureau (92-4690) (AM)
3-Chicago (166-77) { 1-92-1181) (Regular Mail)
1-Milwaukee (92-257)
JAH:sbt (7)

SBH *PHS* *(m)*

Holtzman *H*

92-257-553
162-49-221

b3

MI 92-257

- (1) A photograph of [REDACTED]
- (2) Summary of information available relative to the activities of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- (3) Furnish as accurate as possible the dates on which the following gambling establishments were doing business:
 - (a) Homestead
 - (b) Remodeled farm house, "with big white pillars" in the vicinity of the Homestead
 - (c) Vernon Hills Country Club.

b6
b7c

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

DATE: 7/31/63

FROM : SA

☒ CI

☐ SI

☐ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT:

b7D

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact

7/24/63

Titles and File #s on which contacted

WILLIAM COVELLI, aka, IGA

162-49

IGAT

162-1

CIP

92-145

THOMPSON

JOHN CHARLES RIZZO, aka, AR

92-164

b6
b7C

Purpose and results of contact

☐ NEGATIVE

☐ POSITIVE

Informant advised that COVELLI and RIZZO are going daily to the horse races in Illinois but are definitely not booking at the track. He said that they still run two books, one in Racine and one in Kenosha. He also advised that COVELLI's abduction has become a "joke" among the hoodlums and they feel that it was definitely just a way of trying to ease some of the harrassment he has been receiving from the FBI and local authorities.

☐ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

Excellent

Coverage

Gambling

Personal Data

1 - 162-49
1 - 92-145
JHG/imp
(5)

1 - 162-1
1 - 92-164

162-49-~~500~~

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JUL 31 1963
FBI - CHICAGO

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Milwaukee [redacted]

DATE: 8/6/63

FROM : SA [redacted]

☒ CI ☐ SI

SUBJECT: [redacted]

☐ PCI ☐ PSI

Dates of Contact		
8/2/63		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
[redacted] ITAR - Prostitution	166-37	[redacted]
WILLIAM COVELLI, IGA	162-49	
JOHN CHARLES RIZZO, aka AR	92-164	
LA CAUSA NOSTRA	92-262 THOMPSON	
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
<p>Informant stated that DOMINIC FRINZI is the top outfit attorney and that [redacted] has been assisting FRINZI and has come a long way in the past few months to a point where he is really respected by the outfit. He said that [redacted] makes a great many trips to Kenosha, Wisc., to see [redacted] WILLIAM COVELLI, and seems to be a go-between for the Kenosha and Milwaukee outfit boys. He advised that [redacted] has one definite weakness and that is that he will go out with any stripper who will go out with him.</p> <p>Informant stated that he knew nothing concerning the activities of [redacted] while the latter was in Milwaukee testifying for the Federal Grand Jury around 7/16/63 as he, informant, was [redacted]</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Excellent	Coverage Gambling
Personal Data		162-49-223 SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED AUG 1963

1-166-37 1-162-49 1-92-164
JEG:bs 1-92-232
(5)

b7D

b6
b7C

b7D

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 12, 1963

[redacted] stated to agents that neither her husband nor [redacted] were at home; that they were out, [redacted] and [redacted] just plain "out." She said she knew nothing of any list of employees that [redacted] were to prepare. She displayed a markedly hostile and suspicious attitude.

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On 6/10/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49by SAS [redacted] *CA* *HB* dictated 6/11/63 *imp*

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162-49-224

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 12, 1963

On June 10, 1963 agents, in going to Kenosha Vending Company, 2209-56th Avenue, to pick up the list of employees previously arranged to be left there, found the Vending Company Office locked and the restaurant next door closed.

[redacted] said that [redacted] had left no paper with him for the FBI and knew nothing of any such arrangements. He said there had been activity in the store [redacted] earlier in the day, but didn't know who had been there and didn't want to know.

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On 6/10/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAS [redacted] /lmp dictated 6/11/63

162-49-225

Date June 12, 1963

[redacted] was interviewed by agents at Greco's Restaurant, 56th and 22nd Avenue, Kenosha. He said that early in the evening of June 6, 1963 he had borrowed the station wagon of WILLIAM COVELLI and, along with a friend [redacted] had gone for a ride around town. He said that they went no place in particular and he figures his use of the car was from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. He said he came back to Greco's Restaurant at 10:30 p.m. where COVELLI was waiting for him and that COVELLI left for home about ten minutes later. He said that he did not notice any out of state cars parked in the immediate vicinity when he returned nor did he notice anyone loitering suspiciously outside. He said he hadn't noticed any suspicious looking strangers in the vicinity within the recent past.

[redacted] said that he is [redacted] at Kenosha Vending Company, 2209-56th Avenue. He said that he first heard of the incident relating to COVELLI at 11 a.m. June 7, 1963 when [redacted] with whom he lives, told him. He said he had no idea who would do such a thing.

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He said that there were probably ten to twelve people in the restaurant counting customers and help when he returned. He said that in addition to those presently in the restaurant he would secure the names of all employees from [redacted] who runs the restaurant and also the home addresses of these people and would have it available on Monday, June 10, 1963 for agents. He said that the restaurant is closed on Monday but that he would have the list at Kenosha Vending Company immediately next door and if he were to go out on business he would leave it at [redacted] at the corner.

On 6/8/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAS [redacted] & ALBERT B. KNICKREHM Date dictated 6/11/63
Imp

162 - 49 - 224

Date July 17, 1963

[redacted]
while awaiting appearance before the Federal Grand Jury, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He met [redacted] whom he referred to as [redacted] at the [redacted] in Kenosha in 1960 upon his [redacted]. The [redacted] two of them compared notes and gambled jointly with various bookies in Kenosha for the time between [redacted] and [redacted] in 1961. Likewise, he borrowed money from [redacted] on several occasions. [redacted] and on the last occasion a [redacted] just before [redacted]. He has never paid this money back to [redacted] although it is possible that [redacted] contacted [redacted] and collected from her.

[redacted] said it is an absolute fact that [redacted] assisted him in [redacted]

[redacted] and that he intended to testify to these facts before the Federal Grand Jury under oath [redacted]

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On 7/16/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 92-257

by SA JOHN A. HOLTZMAN /jb Date dictated 7/16/63

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162-49-327

Date July 17, 1963

[redacted] Kenosha, furnished the following information:

He is married, has two children, is employed as [redacted] in Kenosha and has been so employed since 1947. He is [redacted]

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A couple of years ago in late 1960 or early 1961 he first met a man known to him as [redacted]. They met in the [redacted] in Kenosha, which is run by one [redacted] who was known to [redacted]. The meeting was casual and they had a few drinks together on this occasion and on several subsequent occasions, again at [redacted]. After they had known each other for a matter of a week or so [redacted]

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[redacted] was described by [redacted] as being a con-man type of individual.

[redacted] told [redacted] of Kenosha but beyond this and the fact that he was married, [redacted] claimed that he got practically no information from [redacted] of a personal nature.

[redacted] said he was not aware of any information on even the fact that [redacted]

[redacted] He said that he had only been in [redacted] five or six times and had never been in [redacted]

On 7/10/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 92-257

by SA JOHN A. HOLTZMAN /jb Date dictated 7/16/63

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162-49-728

MI 92-257

-2-

[] said he would have no idea why [] would make such accusations against him and that he was perfectly willing to swear to the veracity of his [] statements and take a polygraph examination if that were desired.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 26, 1963

At approximately 10:00 a.m. June 20, 1963 agents observed a 1960 white Ford Thunderbird, 1963 Wisconsin license Y73-573 which is registered to FRANCIS C. STELLOH, 1315 North 59th Street, parked in the rear of the four apartment unit located at [redacted] West Allis, Wisconsin.

Agents went to the apartment house at this address where [redacted] is listed as the occupant of Apartment Number [redacted] and upon ringing the door buzzer she appeared at the door and agents asked to speak to STELLOH. She said she was sorry but she could not be disturbed, that she had a female guest in the apartment. She was advised that agents desired to speak to the man who was in the apartment whereupon she closed the apartment door. The chain lock on the inside could be heard being latched.

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After waiting a few minutes the agents rang the door buzzer again and FRANCIS C. STELLOH opened the door, looked at the agents, and said he had nothing to talk about. He was advised that he hadn't been informed as to who the callers were or the nature of their presence. He then said, "Have you got a warrant," to which agents replied, "No," that they merely wanted to talk to him whereupon he slammed the door.

On 6/20/63 at West Allis, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs JOHN A. HOLTZMAN & CARLYLE N. REED/lmp Date dictated 6/20/63

162-49-229

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/13/63

WALTER F. BROCCA, 4023 South Kansas Street, upon first contact advised he did not desire to talk to the FBI at all, but then stated he knew nothing about anything that was supposed to have happened to WEISER COVELLI at Kenosha, Wisconsin, had heard nothing about it, did not want to know anything about it and could furnish absolutely no information about this or any other matter. He stated that when anything concerning such matters was brought up in his presence he either changed the subject or left. He stated he did not desire to further discuss this or any other matter.

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On 6/11/63 at Milwaukee, Wis. File # MI 162-49
by SA [redacted] 7 Date dictated 6/11/63

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162-49-230

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 15, 1963

FRANK LaGALBO, 1414 East Albion Street, was contacted at Chico's Bar and Restaurant, 1544 North Farwell Avenue, of which he is the proprietor, and advised of our desire to talk to him. He stated there was nothing he wished to speak to the FBI about and that if the FBI wanted any information from him it would be necessary to contact his attorney; namely, DOMINIC FRINZI.

On 6/11/63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SA (A) ALBERT G. MACDONALD and
SA [redacted] (ef) Date dictated 6/12/63

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162-49-231

Date June 24, 1963

[redacted] advised that prior to the abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI, her [redacted] she had last seen him on Sunday, June 2, 1963 at a family gathering. At that time WILLIAM COVELLI did not appear concerned in any manner and [redacted] stated that she knows of no one who would be desirous of abducting her [redacted] WILLIAM COVELLI. She stated that she did not believe that any reason existed which would warrant such action toward WILLIAM COVELLI and that he is a "fine individual". She stated that she heard about COVELLI's abduction sometime early Friday morning, June 7, 1963 when WILLIAM COVELLI's wife ELEANOR called and spoke to WILLIAM COVELLI's [redacted]

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[redacted] stated that upon receiving this telephone call from ELEANOR COVELLI, [redacted] went to the house of WILLIAM and ELEANOR COVELLI.

On 6/14/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] Date dictated 6/19/63
[redacted] kaj

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b7C162-49-232

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/13/63

STEVE DE SALVO was contacted at Checker Cleaners, 1012 South 1st Street. He refused to open the door and conversed by yelling through the plate glass window of the store. He said he would not talk to us unless we had a warrant and brought him downtown for questioning.

On 6/11/63 at Milwaukee, Wis. File # MI 162-49
by SA [redacted] mg Date dictated 6/12/63

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162-49-233

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 29, 1963

[redacted]
[redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin, Kenosha
[redacted] advised the following:

[redacted] advised that he knew ANTHONY BIERNAT through business connections but he was not a close friend of BIERNAT's and has not been with him on any social get-together.

[redacted] stated that he has approximately [redacted] and he would often see BIERNAT while on these business calls. He added that he saw TONY BIERNAT three or four times shortly before his abduction on January 7, 1963 but BIERNAT never acted strange, worried, or made any mention to him that he was in any form of trouble.

[redacted] stated that if a new place of business was opened up in Kenosha and [redacted] he would mention the fact to BIERNAT so that he could approach the new owners to place his jukebox in the new establishment.

[redacted] stated that he was friendly with "WEISER" COVELLI and JEFF COVELLI but this friendship was nothing more than casual conversation when they would meet.

[redacted] stated that he would often see "WEISER" COVELLI and [redacted] Kenosha Police Department at [redacted] in Illinois and that he had told [redacted] that he didn't approve of his outward association with COVELLI and other Kenosha individuals associated with COVELLI. He also stated that he had told [redacted] that he had made a big mistake in letting JOHN RIZZO of Racine come into Kenosha and openly conduct a crap game.

[redacted] advised that he had no personal knowledge of the BIERNAT murder and the only thing he knew about this murder was what he had read in the newspapers.

[redacted] stated that the people in Kenosha are indifferent and even though they know something is going on they will not do anything about it.

On 6/20/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 92-257

by SA [redacted] /lmp Date dictated 6/24/63

162-49-234

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/13/63

[redacted] Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was contacted at his place of business, [redacted] Milwaukee, and advised he has not been to Kenosha, Wisconsin in over a year. He stated he does not know WILLIAM COVELLI and has never met him in person. He has read newspaper accounts of the alleged abduction of COVELLI but has no information as to who could have been involved. He does not know anything about the abduction of COVELLI and only knows one person in Kenosha by the name of [redacted]

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[redacted] advised he is currently employing the services of attorney DOMINIC FRINZI concerning [redacted] on file against him.

[redacted] admits knowing JOE GURERA, STEVE DI SALVO and FRANK BALISTRERI. He stated that these men have been in his [redacted] on various occasions and DI SALVO has stopped by [redacted]

[redacted] advised the interviewing agents that he would fully cooperate with the FBI and advise the office if he hears any information pertinent to the BIERNAT murder or the COVELLI abduction.

On 6/11/63 at Milwaukee, Wis. File # MI 162-49
by SA [redacted] Date dictated 6/12/63

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162-49-235

Date 6/20/63

On June 7, 1963, a 1962 Dodge Dart station wagon, four door, off-white in color, bearing VIN 4522143887, and 1963 Wisconsin license plates E84821, which vehicle is titled under Wisconsin title #TE28E1558 to the Kenosha Vending Co., Kenosha, Wisconsin, was processed for latent fingerprints where it was parked in the resident's garage, located to the rear of 7827 36th Avenue, Kenosha, owned by WILLIAM COVELLI and ELEANOR VIRGINIA COVELLI, that address. This vehicle was in extremely dirty and dusty condition and while the entire exterior portions of the body of the vehicle consisting of the roof and doors, both front, right and left, together with windows and the interior portions consisting of the area around the driver's side as well as the passenger side of the car, including the rear view mirror and dashboard were examined, only the following questionable and partial latent fingerprints were located:

Exhibit 1, right top corner of rear view mirror

Exhibit 2, tip of left front vent door window-outside and at top

Exhibit 3, outside window, right front door, on large roll-up window near top

Exhibit 4, on outside right front door, roll-up window near top edge

Exhibit 5, inside roll-up window on left front door near top

Exhibit 6, inside left front door roll-up window, center and at left

The foregoing were the only latent or partial latent fingerprints of questionable value located during this examination. Photographs where use of the fingerprint camera permitted were taken prior to preparation of lifts. It was noted both the interior and exterior of this vehicle was in an extremely dusty and soiled condition, which condition had apparent effect in that few latents of suitable value were located.

On June 7, 1963, the following items were noted as being contained in the instant vehicle as follows:

On 6/7-8/63 at KENOSHA, WISCONSIN File # 162-49

by SA WILLIAM J. HIGGINS, JR. jah Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-236

1. A Standard Oil Map of Wisconsin, located on the upper right sun visor.
2. A Howard Johnson sales slip in the name of COVELLI dated March 3rd and 4th for two guests at the Motor Lodge South, located at 6929 South Lindberg Road, St. Louis 25, Missouri; and a scorecard for the Maple Crest Country Club containing the names of [redacted] reflecting pencilled scores for the back nine holes of that golf course.
3. A Howard Johnson Motor Lodge South receipt showing address of 6929 South Lindberg Road, St. Louis 25, Missouri in the name of RIZZO for room 127, two guests, dated March 3rd and 4th.
4. Oklahoma Turnpike receipt, ticket #66110, reflecting entrance on that turnpike at Gate 1 and exiting at Gate 5; two paper containers, one being for fifty cent pieces in the amount of \$10 and the other being for ten cent pieces in the amount of \$5; and, a church bulletin publication at Kenosha, Wisconsin.

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The foregoing items were all located on the front seat of this vehicle and as such could have been handled by any individual that entered in on the front seat.

There was, in addition, located in the glove compartment of the automobile, the following additional paper items, which also could have been handled in the event any one had opened that glove compartment to determine its contents:

5. Postcard photograph of a pool table, on the back of which appears written in ballpoint, a number of arabic figures; and, a Moland Brothers Trucking Co. memorandum sheet on which there appears in writing in ballpoint beginning "1295-DS"
6. 12 copies of a Seberg Music location contract
7. 1 copy of a sales and service order, dated March 19, 1963 by Texaco for total of \$7.40 on a Dodge station wagon
8. Stainless steel chrome handle, on which appears a number of latent fingerprints of questionable value.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 17, 1963

[redacted] was contacted June 14, 1963, and advised that the FBI wanted to talk to him. He said that he would come to the FBI office the following morning at ten o'clock.

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On June 15, 1963, at 11:29 AM, [redacted] telephonically contacted the office and advised SA [redacted] that he would not come to the office to be interviewed unless this interview was to be conducted in the presence of his attorney. In view of this, no interview was conducted.

On 6/14&15/63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SA [redacted] Date dictated 6/17/63

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162-49-227

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 17, 1963

STEVE DE SALVO, 2605 East Holmes Avenue, Cudahy, Wisconsin, was interviewed in the parking lot behind his place of business, Checker Cleaners, 1012 South 1st Street. DE SALVO was interviewed as he approached the car of another individual whom the agents were interviewing, [redacted] is an employee of DE SALVO. DE SALVO spoke in Italian to [redacted] after which [redacted] immediately departed. DE SALVO was questioned as to his knowledge of the alleged abduction of WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI. DE SALVO expressed a most belligerent and contemptuous attitude toward the agents and stated he did not know COVELLI and never even heard of him. He stated he knew nothing about COVELLI's alleged abduction and did not want to talk about it. When he was questioned as to what he knew about the abduction and murder of ANTHONY BIERNAT, he stated he knows nothing about the murder of BIERNAT. He wanted to know why we were interested in talking to him, after which he pointed to several cars in the parking lot and asked why the agents did not interview the owners of these vehicles.

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STEVE DE SALVO even refused to look at the agents' credentials and when they were held in front of his eyes, he closed his eyes and turned his head and said he did not want to see them. DE SALVO stated he was a hard working man, and that the FBI and the police were harassing him and caused embarrassment to himself and his family.

On 6-14-63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # 162-49
by SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM
SA(A) ALBERT G. MACDONALD/cef Date dictated 6-17-63

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162-49-238

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 17, 1963

[redacted] was interviewed as he approached his vehicle, which was parked in the lot behind his place of employment, Checker Cleaners, 1012 South 1st Street.

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[redacted] After being advised of the agents' identities, stated he did not desire to talk to the agents, for the agents to see his attorney and if we wanted to talk to him, we should get a warrant. [redacted] after considerable conversation, stated that he did not know WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI, but advised that he had heard of the alleged abduction of COVELLI. He stated that his only knowledge of this incident, was what he read in the newspaper.

[redacted] stated that he goes to Kenosha frequently inasmuch as [redacted] living there, and that in fact he was last in Kenosha on June 9, 1963 to visit [redacted]. He stated that while they were visiting there, there was no discussion whatsoever of COVELLI's abduction.

[redacted] advised that he had no idea as to who was responsible for the murder of ANTHONY BIERNAT nor does he have any idea as to why BIERNAT was murdered. He stated that he works hard for a living at this cleaning establishment, and that he is at home every evening.

On 6-14-63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # 162-49
by SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM
SA(A) ALBERT G. MACDONALD/cef Date dictated 6-17-63

162-49-239

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 17, 1963

Date

[redacted] was interviewed at his home at [redacted]. He stated that he did not know WILLIAM COVELLI, and he had not discussed his abduction with anyone and did not know any more about it than what had already appeared in the newspapers.

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He also stated that he did not know TONY BIERNAT who was murdered in January, 1963 and he also stated that he had no information in regard to who may have been responsible for it.

He stated that he is a [redacted] and that he was operator of [redacted]. He stated, however, the [redacted]

He also stated that he did not think the FBI was responsible for the abduction of COVELLI and indicated that if he heard anything he would notify the FBI.

He also stated that he is [redacted] who manages the [redacted]. He stated that he [redacted]

[redacted] he does not know.

He also stated that there was no syndicate in Milwaukee. He stated that he did not think anyone was trying to muscle in in the juke box business. Also, he stated that he had juke boxes at [redacted] and stated he had never heard the owner make any remarks that someone was attempting to take over the juke box business. He furnished the following descriptive information:

DOB:

[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Height:

5'6"

Weight:

190

Wife:

Brother:

On 6-14-63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # 162-49

SA ALBERT G. MACDONALD

SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM

/cef

Date dictated

6-17-63

162-49-240

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 17, 1963b6
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[redacted] was interviewed at his home, [redacted] Milwaukee. He stated that he did not know WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI and knew nothing about his abduction until he read about it in the newspaper. He also stated that he does not have any idea why COVELLI should be abducted.

He stated that as he recalled the only conversation he had with anyone about this, was with SAM CEFALU while they were at Pop Maniaci's Restaurant on East North Avenue. The general results of this discussion were that both were of the opinion that it was ridiculous to think that the FBI would abduct COVELLI or any other person. He also stated that he thought the COVELLI abduction and the TONY BIERNAT murder were bad because it put the Italians in a bad light.

He also stated that it was undesirable to him inasmuch as he is interested in his own safety and the safety of his family.

He stated that on Thursday, June 6, 1963 he had [redacted]

[redacted] He stated that they had arrived home about midnight. As the agents were leaving [redacted] came into the room and confirmed [redacted]

He also stated that he did not know TONY BIERNAT and knew nothing in regard to his killing, other than what appeared in the newspapers and on TV.

He also stated that he was unable to understand the purpose behind the killing. He also stated that he had never been in Kenosha and had no opinion as to who may have killed BIERNAT.

He stated that he is [redacted] and works for [redacted] He also stated that recently, he had been in [redacted]

He stated that he had heard that up to about two years ago, JOHN RIZZO operated a crap game in Kenosha. He, however, denied having been in Kenosha or having participated in any such crap game.

On 6-14-63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # 162-49
by SA ALBERT G. MACDONALD
SA ALBERT G. KNICKREHM/cef Date dictated 6-17-63

MI 162-49

- 2 -

He also stated that he had never been in touch with the [redacted] and [redacted]

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He also stated that he had never been approached by anyone to make a payoff, and that he had never made any payoff in connection with anything. He furnished the following descriptive information:

Name:

DOB:

Hair:

Height:

Weight:

Build:

Eyes:

Wife:

Children:

[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dark

5'7"

170

Medium

Brown. wears glasses

As a final remark, he stated that he hoped the FBI found out who attempted to abduct COVELLI and also that it was determined who was responsible for the killing of BIERNAT.

Date May 16, 1963

[redacted] Kenosha Wisconsin PD. was interviewed on May 15, 1963 by SAs [redacted]

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[redacted] At the outset of the interview [redacted] said that he was very glad to have agents interview him, as he had been told that inquiries had been made concerning himself and [redacted] [redacted] furnished the following information:

[redacted] was asked if he had ever taken any form of a payoff from any one at any time. [redacted] stated that he definitely had not and that he had recently withdrawn \$500 from the bank in order to purchase a new car. [redacted] stated that this was all of the money that he had in the bank. He stated that he would be making the final payment on his home in Kenosha within the next three months, after having carried a mortgage for many years. He stated that he has not lived beyond his means at any time in his life as he would have if he had been paid off. [redacted] attributes the allegations about him taking pay off to [redacted] in Kenosha, Wisconsin. [redacted] recently went to [redacted] at which time [redacted] told [redacted] that [redacted] was taking payoffs from gamblers in Kenosha and that he was the "bag man" for [redacted] [redacted] also stated that [redacted] told [redacted] of [redacted] allegations and [redacted] in turn told [redacted] [redacted] said he had looked for [redacted] for the next few days and if he had found him he would have killed him. [redacted] then cooled off and thought about it and realized he should not let [redacted] remarks bother him and he tried to forget the incident. [redacted] stated that he had been an honest police officer for [redacted] years as evidenced by the fact that he has risen to the rank of [redacted] and the allegations about him taking payoffs hurt him because he has [redacted]

[redacted] further stated that he has never been offered payoffs since he has been a police officer in Kenosha.

Concerning his association with hoodlums and gamblers in Kenosha, [redacted] stated that he grew up on the west side and played ball with many of those individuals now considered gamblers and hoodlums and he does not see any reason why he should break off their friendship because they are gamblers or considered

On 5/15/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 92-257
by SAs [redacted] SBT Date dictated 5/16/63

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162-49-242

hoodlums. [] stated that this, in fact, was of benefit to the Kenosha Police as he was able to talk to these people and they had confidence in him.

RE: JOE GURERA &
STEVE DE SALVO

[] stated that he had been introduced to JOE GURERA by STEVE DE SALVO in early November of 1962. [] could not recall the exact date that he met GURERA and DE SALVO, however, the meeting took place at Greco's Restaurant in Kenosha. [] stated he is well acquainted with DE SALVO's brother and he had known STEVE DE SALVO previously. DE SALVO asked [] "How are things?" and then stated, "I want you to meet a friend of mine, JOE." JOE said "Hello" and that terminated the meeting. [] further stated that it was on his day off when he met GURERA and DE SALVO and he was requested by interviewing agents to attempt to ascertain the exact date of the meeting by determining which day he had off. [] stated that he had heard that BIERNAT was contacted some time in November by JOE GURERA and STEVE DE SALVO, however, contrary to previous reports, he believes that WEISTER COVELLI had seen BIERNAT a few hours earlier and GURERA and DE SALVO went to see him a few hours later that same day, at which time COVELLI was not with them. [] could furnish no further information concerning STEVE DE SALVO and JOE GURERA.

RE: ANTHONY BIERNAT

[] stated that he knew ANTHONY BIERNAT and he had no idea as to who would have wanted to kill him. He stated that BIERNAT played the horses but that he did not book. [] further stated that TONY BIERNAT and his wife were not getting along and that she was going out at night on frequent occasions. When she went out BIERNAT would have a young boy named, (FNU) [] come to the BIERNAT home and stay with him because BIERNAT was very nervous about staying alone. [] advised that he would attempt to ascertain the exact identity of []

RE: JEFF COVELLI

[] stated that he knew JEFF COVELLI and JEFF was a mental case. He stated that although JEFF is yellow, he is definitely mental and could have taken part in the BIERNAT

slaying. According to [] JEFF COVELLI is running a restaurant on Sheridan Road known as Maxies and he is not at all closely associated with his brother, WEISER COVELLI.

RE: WEISER COVELLI

[] stated that WEISER COVELLI is "a pretty solid kid", who definitely had nothing to do with the BERNAT abduction and murder. [] feels that WEISER COVELLI is following somewhat in his father's footsteps, although he did not think he was going to. [] talked to WEISER COVELLI after the BERNAT slaying and COVELLI swore on his father's grave that he knew nothing about the abduction and slaying.

[] stated that COVELLI is afraid to talk to the FBI because of possible repercussions from the hoodlum element.

[] stated that he himself told COVELLI that he should talk to authorities because the more you avoid them the more it looks like you have had part. COVELLI recently asked

[] "Why is the FBI watching my home." [] stated he was unable to tell COVELLI anything. He said COVELLI is currently not in any tax difficulties and is running the Kenosha Vending Company on 22nd Avenue. [] stated that he would personally attempt to get WEISER COVELLI to talk to FBI agents. [] stated he could probably get COVELLI to talk to agents if it were on a very confidential basis.

RE: JOHN RIZZO

[] stated that he could not point his finger at any individual in the Kenosha area as being controlled by the syndicate except JOHN RIZZO. [] stated he first met RIZZO at the track down in Illinois some time ago and he last saw him a few weeks ago at Arlington in Illinois.

[] could give no reason for his belief that RIZZO was controlled by the syndicate, however, it was an impression he had gotten. [] stated that RIZZO and COVELLI are together quite often, however, he does not think that they are partners in any venture at present.

RE: ALBERT ALBANA

[] stated that AL ALBANA had visions of grandeur about himself, however, he is just a moocher and very disliked by many individuals in Kenosha. He stated that AL ALBANA is frequently complaining about backaches and various illnesses.

He stated that ALBANA once ran a mink ranch in Kenosha, then he went out to the West Coast during the war where he worked on liberty ships, after which he returned to Kenosha. [] believes that ALBANA's wife supported him most of the time and he has worked very intermittently. ALBANA at one time did work as a door man at a crap game on 56th Street in Kenosha next to Greco's Restaurant. This game, which is no longer operating, was run by WEISER COVELLI and JOHN RIZZO and to his knowledge ALBANA has never operated a game of his own. [] stated that he could not believe that ALBANA would be a suspect in the ANTHONY BIERNAT abduction and murder.

RE: FRANK BALISTRIERI

[] stated that he had met FRANK BALISTRIERI only once and that was about a year ago at Arlington Park Race Track in Illinois. He knows nothing of his activities and he has not seen BALISTRIERI since the initial meeting.

RE: []

[] stated that he knew [] real well and advised that [] is now [] and he got married [] does not feel that [] had a part in the BIERNAT slaying and he does not believe that [] is currently involved in illegal activities.

RE: [] &

[] stated that [] are partners but only [] is [] is apparently [] while [] does the booking and [] does not know where [] is getting his line. [] stated that he has tried to "knock off" [] on prior occasions, but that he has been unable to obtain enough evidence. [] stated he is a good friend of [] and he visits him very often even though [] is a known gambler.

[] said that [] is doing real well at his new location at [] and recently he [] believes that [] would be receptive to an FBI contact and would most likely furnish any information he has.

RE: DOMINIC PRINCIPE

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According to [] DOMINIC PRINCIPE was "a rough kid", but he has settled down and is currently trying to make an honest living. [] stated that PRINCIPE is a good plumber but because of illness has had to take it easy and, therefore, is in the restaurant business with his sister in Illinois. []

[] said he would find it hard to believe that PRINCIPE could be involved in the BERNAT abduction and murder in any way. [] could furnish no information concerning the car previously owned by PRINCIPE's [] and possibly driven at times by PRINCIPE, and when apprised of the story furnished by PRINCIPE and [] concerning the disposition of the car, []

stated, "It does sound kind of funny." [] said that right after the BERNAT body was found [] told him to get hold of PRINCIPE so he could talk to him.

[] was unsuccessful and [] went to Illinois to see PRINCIPE at which time they saw FBI Agents there. [] did not know why [] wanted to see PRINCIPE at that time. [] last saw PRINCIPE about 2 weeks ago at [] at []

[] Kenosha, which is owned by [] At that time only casual conversation took place.

RE: []

[] stated that [] also worked for JOHN RIZZO and WEISER COVELLI when they ran a gambling joint on 56th Street in Kenosha and he worked in the same capacity as ALBERT ALBANA, that is as door man and look out. [] stated that [] was a very good friend of JOHN RIZZO, however, he did not know of his relationship with WEISER COVELLI.

At the close of the interview, [] stated that [] was "pretty shook" by the developments in Kenosha. He stated that he did not know what [] was doing at present nor what he intended to do. [] himself is not worried about any allegations made concerning him, however, they are disturbing. He stated that he would like to see the BERNAT slaying solved for the good of the Kenosha PD and he is ready to help in any way he can. He intends to remain on the Kenosha PD and would only consider retiring if a proposed business deal works out. [] stated that this involves the construction of [] in the Kenosha area.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 1, 1963b6
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JOHN CHARLES RIZZO stated at the very beginning of the interview that he was free to talk about the alleged abduction of WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI, which occurred on June 6, 1963, but that upon advice of counsel RIZZO stated that he could not discuss anything or any subject in addition to COVELLI's abduction. RIZZO advised that he had just seen his attorney, DOMINIC FRINZI, and been so instructed.

RIZZO stated that he last saw WILLIAM COVELLI on Sunday, June 16, 1963, when RIZZO and [redacted] went to visit the COVELLIs at Kenosha, Wisconsin. RIZZO stated that he first heard of WILLIAM COVELLI's abduction when he read the article concerning COVELLI's abduction in the morning newspaper on Monday, June 9, 1963. RIZZO stated that he has known COVELLI approximately twelve to fifteen years.

RIZZO was asked as to his own whereabouts during the evening of Thursday, June 6, 1963, and RIZZO said that he was at home with [redacted] at that time. RIZZO related that he had absolutely no idea as to who abducted WILLIAM COVELLI, or why the abduction was perpetrated or who might have even had a desire to "do such a thing." RIZZO stated that he and [redacted] and Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM COVELLI took a vacation early in the year, returning from that vacation sometime in early April, 1963, and that since that time RIZZO has seen WILLIAM COVELLI only on several occasions. RIZZO related that he has not been going to Kenosha of late but has been spending most of his time at one of the race tracks in the Chicago, Illinois, area. RIZZO stated that he sees WILLIAM COVELLI mostly in the wintertime when they play cards, pinochle and gin rummy. RIZZO advised that he has not played cards at the Elks Club in Racine, Wisconsin, for a number of years.

RIZZO was asked whether he has any business interests with WILLIAM COVELLI, and RIZZO stated that he has no interest in vending machines. He advised that to his knowledge WILLIAM COVELLI is in the vending machine business with [redacted]

[redacted] RIZZO denied knowing of any other business that

On 6/19/63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # MI 92-164

by SAs [redacted], & [redacted] Date dictated 6/25/63

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162-49-243

COVELLI might be interested in or in which he might be engaged. RIZZO was asked whether or not he had ever been associated with WILLIAM COVELLI in any type of business and RIZZO declined to answer and claimed that in his opinion such background information was not pertinent to the investigation concerning COVELLI's alleged abduction. RIZZO also declined to answer as to whether or not he had ever any interests with WILLIAM COVELLI in any form of gambling activities, and he declined to answer whether or not he had any interests in any current gambling activities. RIZZO was also asked as to whether or not he had ever participated in running any type of a gambling game, and he stated he declined to answer on the basis of prior instructions received from his attorney.

RIZZO was asked concerning the identities of various individuals who are believed to be associated with WILLIAM COVELLI or relations of COVELLI, and RIZZO identified JEFF COVELLI as WILLIAM COVELLI's brother whom he has known for approximately 12 to 15 years. RIZZO stated that he believed that at one time JEFF COVELLI and WILLIAM COVELLI had been in the vending machine business together but had mutually decided to sell their interests. With respect to AL ALBANA, RIZZO described him as an individual whom he has seen hanging around Greco's Restaurant in Kenosha and whom he has known for about four or five years. RIZZO was asked whether or not AL ALBANA had ever worked for him, and RIZZO replied, "You're getting off the track." RIZZO was shown a photograph of STEVE DE SALVO, and RIZZO advised that he knows who DE SALVO is when he sees him but is not well acquainted with him. RIZZO further stated that he does not recall ever having seen DE SALVO in Kenosha, Wisconsin. RIZZO described [redacted] as an individual he has known for approximately thirty years and as an individual whom he used to see at Kenosha, Wisconsin, occasionally every week, but RIZZO declined to mention the circumstances under which he had seen [redacted] RIZZO said that he never had observed [redacted] gambling, did not know that [redacted] ever gambled and described [redacted] as an individual who was constantly down on his luck and to whom RIZZO would occasionally give his "handout." RIZZO denied that [redacted] had ever been employed by him for any reason.

RIZZO stated that he has known FRANK BALISTRIERI of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for perhaps twenty to twenty-five years and does not know exactly how he became acquainted with

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MI 92-164

FRANK BALISTRERI except that he originally met him in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. RIZZO denied knowing any of the details concerning BALISTRERI's background or his interests in various business undertakings. When shown a photograph of JOSEPH GURERA, RIZZO at first did not say whether he knew GURERA but commented, "He looks like a Mexican." When asked whether or not he knew GURERA or had ever met him, RIZZO stated that he could not recall. RIZZO was asked whether or not he had ever been arrested for any reason, and he declined to comment. Various questions were asked of RIZZO, most of which he declined to answer and would repeatedly reply by saying, "You're off the track" or "Who do you like in the third race?" RIZZO claimed that he was unable to recall when or how frequently he visited Milwaukee, and he stated he could not recall whether or not he was in Milwaukee near the end of 1962 or in early 1963.

The following description was obtained of JOHN CHARLES RIZZO by observation and interview:

Name	JOHN CHARLES RIZZO
Date of Birth	November 16, 1910
Place of Birth	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'11"
Weight	205 lbs.
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Blue
Build	Medium--heavy
Complexion	Dark--tan
Peculiarities	Limps on left leg which has been shortened due to broken bone when RIZZO was in early 20's.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 18, 1963

[redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin, advised that he is employed at [redacted] and lives with [redacted] at the [redacted] address.

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[redacted] stated that he wanted to learn the vending machine business, and as a result he worked as [redacted] for WILLIAM "WEISER" COVELLI. He said he worked irregular hours and was paid with cigarettes or other material items but was not a salaried employee. He stated that due to his interest in the vending machine business he was serving an apprenticeship and this accounted for his not receiving a regular wage.

[redacted] stated that he was at Greco's Restaurant, 56th Street and 22nd Avenue, on June 8, 1963 around 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. and no one mentioned the alleged abduction of "WEISER" COVELLI. He added that he has been in the area of Greco's Restaurant on several occasions recently but he does not recall any unusual activity.

[redacted] advised that he did not know ANTHONY BIERNAT and could offer no information concerning his abduction or his murder.

[redacted] advised that he did not know anything about "WEISER" COVELLI approaching ANTHONY BIERNAT in company with JOE GURERA and STEVE DE SALVO with the purpose of "buying in" to BIERNAT's jukebox business.

[redacted] stated that COVELLI has three jukeboxes in Kenosha and they are located at La Strada's Bar, the Tropic Club, and Greco's Restaurant. He was asked if COVELLI had any jukeboxes in storage, and he stated that he knew of no other jukeboxes currently in the possession of COVELLI.

[redacted] advised that he would be willing to help the FBI in any way that he could and that he would immediately advise the Milwaukee Office if he heard of any information concerning ANTHONY BIERNAT or the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI.

On 6/10/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs [redacted] & [redacted] Date dictated 6/14/63

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162-49-244

-1-Date June 13, 1963

FRANK BARCA, 2413 - 34th Avenue, Kenosha, advised that he has a juke box route with offices at 5227 - 13th Avenue, Kenosha. He stated that he had previously been approached by WILLIAM COVELLI to purchase the route but never actually got down to telling COVELLI exactly what he desired to receive for the sale of the route. He stated that he desired to sell the route because he has a good job with American Motors Corporation driving a truck, which pays him \$9,000 per year. His main reason for desiring to sell the route was to give him more time for relaxation.

He stated that on the night of June 6, 1963 he went to bed early and got up at the usual time of 2:50 a.m. and went to the American Motors truck terminal where he punched in between 3:30 and 3:40 a.m. He stated that because of his hours he always goes to bed early. He also advised that he did not have any information as to who might have killed TONY BIERNAT and that since his death [redacted] is still running the route and that there have been no proposals or inquiries by any other persons to obtain his route or any other route that he knows of. He also stated that a juke box route is not very lucrative and there would be no reason why anyone should kill BIERNAT just to obtain control of his route. It was his theory that BIERNAT must have owed a large sum of money to someone and had refused to pay it.

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He stated that he had no information in regard to the alleged COVELLI abduction and has no idea who might have done it. He also stated that he did not believe it was the FBI.

He also stated that he was born on September 11, 1909 at Newark, New York and that his parents are presently deceased and that he had three uncles living in Kenosha. These uncles who are living are PETER and ALFONSE, and the third uncle, TONY, died about ten years ago in Italy.

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs ALBERT G. MACDONALD and [redacted] P/Jb Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-245

Date June 13, 1963

PETER BARCA, 1230 Sheridan Road, Kenosha, advised that he had known ANTHONY BIERNAT since BIERNAT was a young man. He also stated that he had previously been interviewed in regard to BIERNAT's abduction and subsequent murder. He also stated that he did not know why BIERNAT was killed or who did it and he felt positive that BIERNAT's juke box route was not very lucrative and therefore he knew no reason why anyone should have murdered him. He also stated that he believed BIERNAT paid his bills regularly and did not believe that he owed a large sum to anyone for any debts, including gambling debts.

In regard to the most recent alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI, he stated that he had gone to bed early on June 6, 1963 and had played golf on Friday, June 7, 1963 and likewise had gone to bed early and that on June 8 he had gone to the races at Washington Park in Illinois and also had played golf on Sunday. On Monday he had gone to a golf tournament at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and had returned home on Monday night. He stated it was upon his return home on Monday that he first knew that COVELLI had been abducted. He stated that he had not read the papers and had not associated with any individuals from Kenosha who might have given any information in regard to the COVELLI abduction, prior to Monday night.

Mr. BARCA was not very clear and it was difficult to understand his exact meaning, but his theory in regard to the COVELLI abduction was as follows as near as could be determined. He believes that someone murdered BIERNAT without the approval of the syndicate. However he does not know if there is such an organization as a syndicate and if there is such an organization he has no idea who are the members. He believes COVELLI was abducted and threatened by these syndicate men either to determine if he had anything to do with the murder of BIERNAT or to test his reliability to stay within the organization. He stated, however, that he believes the unknown persons who abducted COVELLI have now created an unfavorable situation of causing unfavorable pressure against these unknown people due to the investigation by law enforcement and by newspaper articles.

Mr. BARCA stated that he sold his supper club, the Flamingo Club, 1240 Sheridan Road, about two and one-half years ago

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs ALBERT G. MACDONALD and [redacted] /jb Date dictated 6/13/63

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MI 162-49

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and that now he operates the Barca Belting Company, which deals in new and used machinery, belts and conveyors. He stated this gives him considerable time to enjoy himself and he is semi-retired and plays a good deal of golf. He also stated that he was born July 22, 1903 in Italy, that he is about 5'9" tall, has gray hair, weighs about 175 pounds and has green-gray eyes. He also stated that his brother, TONY, formerly lived in Kenosha but returned about 8 or 10 years ago to Italy to see his family and had an appendectomy attack and died. He also stated that he has another brother, ALFONSE, who is retired and lives at the Kenosha Youth Foundation in Kenosha.

He also stated that he did not know whether COVELLI gambled and did not know whether he associated with JOHN RIZZO. He then stated that [redacted] who operates [redacted] of COVELLI and that LOUIS GRECO, JR., a nephew of COVELLI, runs the LaStrada Tavern.

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He also stated that his only contact with FRANK BALISTRIERI was that he met him about two years ago at an Italian-American golf tournament in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Date June 24, 1963

FRED "JEFF" COVELLI, 7544 Sheridan Road, advised that he did not know anything personally about the abduction of his brother, WILLIAM COVELLI or the impersonation of any federal officer except from what he had been told by ELEANOR and WILLIAM COVELLI. He stated that he heard about his brother's abduction early Friday morning, June 7, 1963 after returning from work at the American Motors Co. where he is employed between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. He stated that upon receiving a telephone call from ELEANOR COVELLI he went over to "WEISER's" house and spoke to ELEANOR at which time she told him the details of the abduction.

FRED COVELLI stated that he could not think of anyone who would want to harm "WEISER" nor could he think of any reason for the abduction and he had no idea who might have pulled such a job. FRED COVELLI stated that prior to June 6, 1963 he is not sure when he last saw his brother, WILLIAM, but he does see him occasionally when he, FRED COVELLI, stops by Greco's Restaurant for a cup of coffee before going to work at American Motors. He advised that he would be very happy to furnish any information that he might receive that would help in solving the abduction of his brother, WILLIAM.

On 6/14/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs [redacted] Date dictated 6/19/63

162-49-247

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 14, 1963

[redacted]
located at [redacted] advised that on June 6, 1963, he was [redacted] until he closed at approximately 1:30 to 2:00 in the morning, and then he went over to the coffee shop at the Belmont Hotel to obtain something to eat.

He stated that he does not know WILLIAM COVELLI of Kenosha, and he has no recollection of having been in Kenosha for many years. He also stated that he knows nothing about the alleged abduction of COVELLI on June 6, 1963 other than what he has read in the newspaper, and he has not heard anyone talking about COVELLI's abduction, nor has he heard anything in regard to who may have been responsible for the death of ANTHONY BIERNAT. He furnished the following descriptive information:

Date of Birth	[redacted]
Place of Birth	[redacted] Wisconsin
Height	5'11"
Weight	170 lbs.
Hair	Brown, getting thin
Eyes	Blue
Build	Medium
Wife	[redacted]
Home Address	[redacted]
Brothers	[redacted]
Arrests	None

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On 6/13/63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SA [redacted]
SA ALBERT G. MACDONALD/sve *[signature]* Date dictated 6/14/63

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162-49-248

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 14, 1963

CARLO DI MAGGIO, 1526 North Franklin Place, advised that he is now retired inasmuch as he had a heart attack in May, 1962 and another one at a later date. He stated that because of his heart attack, he discontinued his meat market, which was located at 901 East Center Street.

He stated that on June 6, 1963, he went to bed early as he usually does. He also stated that he has not been to Kenosha in many years.

He furnished the following descriptive information in regard to himself:

Name	CARLO DI MAGGIO
Date of Birth	May 28, 1899
Place of Birth	Partinego, Italy
Citizenship	Arrived Milwaukee, 1906, Citizenship, 1945 at Milwaukee
Height	5'7"
Weight	140 lbs.
Build	Thin
Hair	Grey
Eyes	Brown, wears glasses
Speech	Very haulty
Wife	Deceased
Children	<u> </u> San Francisco, California;

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He stated that he has known FRANK BALISTRIERI since FRANK was a child and came into his butcher shop. He stated, however, he does not associate with FRANK, and he has not engaged in any gambling. He stated that he is primarily interested in his butcher shop business.

DI MAGGIO stated that he did not have any knowledge as to the alleged abduction of COVELLI or the BIERNAT murder, other than that obtained from news sources. He further stated since he took sick, he has not been going out to places where he would pick up such information. He maintained that he was presently living on an \$83.00 per month Social Security pension, and

On 6/13/63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # 162-49
by SA
SA ALBERT G. MACDONALD/sve Date dictated 6/14/63

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had not been to Kenosha since around 1932.

Date June 14, 1963

[redacted] advised that he is living with [redacted] at this address, inasmuch as he is now separated from his wife, [redacted]. He stated that the separation took place in court on June 6, 1963. He stated that he is now out of the [redacted] business inasmuch as [redacted]. He stated this was formerly owned by [redacted]. He stated that he is now going back to work [redacted] and that he had just made application for [redacted].

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He stated that on June 6, 1963 he was in court all day and then came home, had dinner in the evening he went down to Duffy's Pool Room on East State Street and North Van Buren Street. He stated he stayed there awhile and then visited a tavern in the neighborhood, and finally came home and went to bed about 11 P.M. as near as he could recall. He stated definitely that he had not been in Kenosha on the evening of June 6, 1963. He also stated that he did not have any knowledge in regard to the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI, nor did he know anything about the murder of TONY BIERNAT and has no knowledge about who may have been responsible for these matters. He also stated that he did not personally know either WILLIAM COVELLI or TONY BIERNAT.

The following descriptive information was obtained:

Name	[redacted]
Date of Birth	[redacted]
Place of Birth	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Height	5'7"
Weight	140 lbs.
Hair	Brown, turning grey
Eyes	Brown
Wife	[redacted] (separated)
Children	[redacted]

[redacted] also advised that he was [redacted]

On 6/13/63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SA [redacted]
SA ALBERT G. MACDONALD/sve *AM* Date dictated 6/14/63

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162-49-2501

Date June 25, 1963

DOMINIC PRINCIPE, who operates a restaurant and one story apartment units on U.S. Highway 12, approximately six miles southeast of Lake Zurich, Illinois, furnished the following information:

PRINCIPE and [] are joint owners at the place of business known as Edith's Pizza, which is an incorporated business. In addition there are 12 small one story apartments adjacent to the restaurant which they own and operate under this corporate set up. He explained that the mailing address at this place of business is Route # 3, Box 237, Palatine, Illinois. At the outset of the interview with PRINCIPE, he asked what the matter was about and he was advised that agents desired to interview him concerning any knowledge he might have of the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI at Kenosha, Wisconsin on June 6, 1963. He immediately replied that he did not care to discuss the matter and had plenty of witnesses to account for his activities on the evening of June 6, 1963. He followed by voluntarily asserting that he could also account for his whereabouts on the night of January 7, 1963. In subsequent discussion PRINCIPE acknowledge that he was referring to the BERNAT slaying by his reference to the night of January 7, 1963. b6 b7C

Regarding his whereabouts on the evening and night of June 6, 1963, he said he had gone to his home in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where his wife and children permanently reside, for the express purpose of attending the eighth grade graduation of his daughter [] from St. Georges School in Kenosha. He claimed he attended the graduation with his wife, having gone to the school at about 6 PM for pre-graduation festivities, the graduation itself, and a social period at the school thereafter. Upon leaving the school he brought his family back to their residence in Kenosha and at approximately 10:30 PM, June 6, 1963, he left the home and drove alone directly to the restaurant at Lake Zurich, Illinois in his automobile. He arrived at his place of business at about 11:45 PM, June 6, 1963 and stayed there the rest of the night. His route of travel upon leaving his residence in Kenosha was via 52nd Street, Kenosha, then south on U.S. 41 to Illinois Highway 63 and then 120 to U.S. Highway 45 and then on Illinois Highway 63 to Lake Zurich.

PRINCIPE pointed out the vehicle which he uses, which was noted to be a 1963 white Mercury Monterey, bears Illinois license []

On 6/13/63 at Lake Zurich, Illinois File # MI 162-49

by SAs CARLYLE N. REED & [] Date dictated 6/20/63 /sbt b6 b7C

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He also pointed out the fact that [redacted] drives a 1962 white, Lincoln Continental, 4-door, bearing 1963 Illinois license [redacted]. He explained that both of these vehicles are in [redacted] name and that actually both cars belong to their corporation, [redacted]. He noted that [redacted] makes the payments on both vehicles.

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PRINCIPE stated that his last trip to Kenosha, Wisconsin was on June 8, 1963 for the purpose of picking up his wife and going to Madison, Wisconsin to attend the graduation of his son on June 10, 1963. He returned to Kenosha on the night of June 10, 1963 and stayed at his residence and returned to Lake Zurich, Illinois on June 11, 1963.

Regarding WILLIAM COVELLI of Kenosha, Wisconsin, he explained that COVELLI married his, PRINCIPE's, niece and he is, therefore, related to COVELLI by marriage. He last saw WILLIAM COVELLI at a christening in Kenosha in November, 1962. He said he is not a close associate of COVELLI and has only chance meetings with him at social functions of interest, church affairs and the like. He first heard about WILLIAM COVELLI's alleged abduction on Monday, June 10, 1963 when he overheard two unidentified couples talking about that incident while the PRINCIPES were at their son's graduation at the University of Wisconsin. PRINCIPE said that apparently the two couples were parents of a graduating student and the two couples were talking about the COVELLI abduction based upon a news item about it. He said he did not want to hear anything about it and intentionally withdrew himself and his wife from within earshot of the two couples. He could furnish no suggestions as to who abducted COVELLI or why.

Regarding the ANTHONY BERNAT slaying, PRINCIPE said he was at his place of business at Lake Zurich the entire night of January 7, 1963 and specifically recalls that at that time the weather was extremely cold and he had to be there to make sure the heat was functioning properly so that there would be no freezing of pipes.

He acknowledged that he "fell" with FRED COVELLI, brother of WILLIAM COVELLI, in an armed robbery for which he served 2½ years in the WSP, Waupun, Wisconsin and from where he was released 18 years ago. PRINCIPE expressed a great concern and was very emotional when he explained that [redacted] has never been told he has served a prison sentence although she has asked him if he has ever been in prison. PRINCIPE thought that her

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MI 162-49

asking PRINCIPE this question was probably because she had been present in the past when PRINCIPE was approached for questioning by law enforcement officers.

PRINCIPE said he is building a new home in the Greenvew Heights subdivision area in Kenosha, Wisconsin as a permanent home for his wife and children even though he has no plans of giving up his interest in the operation of Edith's Pizza, Inc. at Lake Zurich, Illinois.

Date June 25, 1963

[redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin, advised that her husband, DOMINIC PRINCIPE was associated in business with [redacted] under the business name of Edith's Pizza, Highway 12, Lake Zurich, Illinois. She said that DOMINIC PRINCIPE customarily spends the entire week at his place of business and returns to Kenosha to be with his family only on weekends and sometimes not even on weekends. She stated that his presence at his place of business was made necessary by the character of the business, which is open 24 hours each day.

She stated that on Thursday evening, June 6, 1963, DOMINIC PRINCIPE traveled from Lake Zurich to Kenosha to attend the graduation exercises of their daughter from St. Georges Elementary School in Kenosha. She said that DOMINIC was engaged in the graduation festivities until 10:30 PM when he departed from Kenosha to return to Lake Zurich. She said that she was aware of the alleged abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI on the evening of June 6, 1963, because of the publicity the incident had received. In regard to the association between DOMINIC PRINCIPE and WILLIAM COVELLI, she said that they have been acquainted with one another for many years and that ELEANOR COVELLI (Mrs. WILLIAM COVELLI) is the daughter of ANGELINE VENZI, nee PRINCIPE, who is the sister of DOMINIC PRINCIPE and, therefore, ELEANOR COVELLI is the niece of DOMINIC PRINCIPE.

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs CARLYLE N. REED & [redacted] Date dictated 6/19/63
/sbt

162-49-252

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 25, 1963

[redacted] Milwaukee. [redacted]

Milwaukee, furnished the following information:

He [redacted] operates [redacted] known as [redacted]

He claimed that he does not know WILLIAM COVELLI of Kenosha, Wisconsin, who was allegedly abducted on June 6, 1963. He explained that he is not acquainted with the Italian "bunch" in Kenosha, Wisconsin and only knew of COVELLI's abduction from news accounts of that incident. He claimed he had no information hearsay or otherwise which might be of assistance in identifying the abductors of COVELLI or the slayers of ANTHONY BERNAT from Kenosha, Wisconsin on January 7, 1963. He does know, however, FRANCIS CONRAD STELLOH, an ex-convict, who has resided in the West Allis, Wisconsin area.

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[redacted] denied engaging in any gambling or other illegal operations.

[redacted] dwelled on the fact that [redacted] as a result of going into his present place of business which was a new type of operation for him since he had previously been a [redacted] for which he has been well known and not a [redacted], which he attempted in his present business venture.

The following description of [redacted] was obtained from observation:

RACE	White
SEX	Male
AGE	[redacted]
HEIGHT	5'10"
WEIGHT	Approximately 275 lbs.
BUILD	Extremely Obese
EYES	Brown
COMPLEXION	Dark
HAIR	Black, very bald with fringe of of black with graying hair

On 6/14/63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49by SAs CARLYLE N. REED & [redacted] Date dictated 6/20/63b6
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162-49-253

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 25, 1963

JOSEPH SPERA, [redacted] Milwaukee, furnished the following information:

He has resided in Milwaukee since his emigration from Italy in 1921 and has resided at his current address for the past four years. He is a naturalized citizen of the U.S. and is employed as a garbage collector by the City of Milwaukee Department of Sanitation. He has been so employed since 1945. In June, 1962, he purchased three phonograph machines (juke boxes) from [redacted] which he operates at the following locations in Milwaukee:

Sportsmen's Bar, 7th Street, Maniaci's Bar, East North Avenue, Bond's Bar, North Avenue. He said he derives an income of about \$12 per week per juke box and that he embarked on this venture to provide himself with a source of income to supplement his pension at such time as he retires from his present employment which will be in a minimum of four years hence.

SPERA claimed that he was not acquainted with ANTHONY BERNAT and had never heard of him until he read the publicity about BERNAT's death. He denied any familiarity with WILLIAM COVELLI and when reminded that COVELLI's name had appeared prominently in recent newspaper accounts as the result of his alleged abduction in Kenosha, SPERA said he had not read the local newspapers for over a week because he has been on vacation and spending his entire time working around his house. SPERA said he had no associates or contacts in Kenosha and had never visited Kenosha. He said he does not gamble and, therefore, is not familiar with gambling operations in Milwaukee or elsewhere. He acknowledged that he has been acquainted for many years with the BALISTRIERI brothers, FRANK [redacted] BUSTER and other members of the same family by reason of having grown up in the same neighborhood with them. He claimed his contacts with them in recent years have been limited to chance meetings on the street and at weddings and funerals.

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He said he has not been subjected to any pressures or demands for any fraction of the proceeds from his juke box business.

SPERA said his only record of arrest consists of incidents when he was a youth for "hanging around" after which he was released without further prosecutive action.

On 6/15/63 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs CARLYLE N. REED & [redacted] Date dictated 6/20/63

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162-49-254

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MI 162-49

The following description of JOSEPH SPERA was obtained during this interview:

RACE	White
SEX	Male
DOB	2/16/08
POB	Italy
HEIGHT	5'5½"
WEIGHT	170 lbs.
EYES	Hazel
HAIR	Black, graying on sides
SPEECH	Speaks English fluently, with noticeable Italian accent
SCARS & MARKS	Moles on both sides of nose
MARITAL STATUS	Married [redacted] 2 children
RESIDENCE	[redacted] Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 25, 1963

[redacted] Glendale (Milwaukee), furnished the following information:

He does not know WILLIAM COVELLI of Kenosha, Wisconsin and has never been in Kenosha. He never knew ANTHONY BERNAT and his knowledge of the BERNAT slaying January 7, 1963 and the abduction of COVELLI on June 6, 1963 is limited solely to what he has learned from news media. He said he could offer no thoughts as to who may have been responsible for the BERNAT or COVELLI crimes.

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Regarding himself, [redacted] provided the following information:

He was born in the Italian community of the 3rd Ward in Milwaukee where the BALISTRIERI families were also reared. In this way he became acquainted with FRANK BALISTRIERI and FRANK's brothers [redacted] and BUSTER. He admitted one arrest for [redacted]

[redacted] was the extent of his gambling activities which he has not pursued since. He denied operating lotteries or any other activities. He also denied particularly that he had ever engaged in such activities while in the employment of the [redacted] Milwaukee Plant.

He is employed as [redacted] at [redacted] located on the south side of Milwaukee, where he receives a take-home pay of about [redacted] per week under present hours of employment. In addition he has an income of approximately [redacted] per year on rental property he owns on [redacted] and Milwaukee. [redacted]

[redacted] which is rented to [redacted] he owns a late model blue Nash Rambler automobile. He recently purchased the home at his present address in [redacted] Glendale, for approximately [redacted] and has a [redacted] equity in this home. He stated that he had accumulated [redacted] from the proceeds of real estate transactions over a period of years. He claims that he spends his spare time at home with his wife and three children and has no association or contact with any hoodlum element.

On 6/19/63 at Glendale, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SA's CARLYLE N. REED & [redacted] /sbt Date dictated 6/21/63

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162-49-255

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 12, 1963

[redacted] advised he is a very distant relative of [redacted] who operates [redacted] but is not an associate of his.

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He said he was not acquainted with ANTHONY J. BIERNAT or with WILLIAM COVELLI although he does know what COVELLI looks like and his father was a friend of COVELLI's father.

[redacted] advised he was [redacted] North Chicago, Illinois, and has been [redacted] for thirteen years.

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs [redacted] & [redacted] Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-256

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 14, 1963

[redacted] residence [redacted] was inter-
viewed at [redacted] a restaurant
[redacted] operated by himself.

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He advised that he has known WILLIAM COVELLI and ANTHONY J. BERNAT quite well, that WILLIAM COVELLI has for some years and still has cigarette machines in his restaurant and that BERNAT's company has for some time and still has the jukebox machines in his restaurant. [redacted] claimed he hadn't seen BERNAT since a couple of weeks before Christmas of 1962. He had known BERNAT since approximately 1949 or 1950.

About five or six years ago [redacted] with WILLIAM COVELLI in [redacted] located at [redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin. [redacted] said that before [redacted] with COVELLI COVELLI had been in the vending machine business but had sold the business to [redacted] COVELLI subsequently to [redacted] [redacted] again acquired the vending machine business from [redacted]

[redacted] said he hasn't seen "WEISER" COVELLI, the name by which WILLIAM COVELLI is known, for four or five weeks although COVELLI comes each week, usually with [redacted] to collect proceeds from the machine. [redacted] stated he is not always at [redacted] when COVELLI arrives.

[redacted] advised that BERNAT's jukebox machine is serviced by [redacted] who worked for BERNAT and that they were formerly serviced by EDDIE GRIFFIN who died about two or three weeks ago of a prolonged illness, nature unknown, and were also serviced by a [redacted] (phonetic). [redacted] said he has known "WEISER" COVELLI for most of his life and believes him to be a respectable individual.

He does not know of any reason why BERNAT was killed and always considered him to be a respectable man.

He is acquainted with JOHN RIZZO but does not associate with him. A year or two ago he gambled at RIZZO's gambling place operated by RIZZO and COVELLI at 56th Street and 22nd Avenue

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND & [redacted] Date dictated 6/13/63
[redacted] mp

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162-49-257

MI 162-49

in Kenosha, Wisconsin. [] claims he has not gambled recently and cannot afford to. He claimed that he did not know of any large time gambling in Kenosha, Wisconsin and makes a point of not inquiring into the location of any gambling place because it is bad business to give such information to customers of the restaurant who may thereafter lose their money.

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[] advised that [] is a corporation owned by himself and [] with a large loan on the Kenosha National Bank, Kenosha, Wisconsin. He stated that no other individual has any financial interest in this place.

[] stated he knew nothing whatever about the abduction of WILLIAM COVELLI other than what he has read in the newspapers and knows of no one who might have committed the abduction.

Date June 14, 1963

Mrs. WILLIAM COVELLI, 7827-36th Avenue, advised that about 9:30 p.m. June 5, 1963 her husband arrived home and told her he thought that he was followed by another car, that they went out for a drive to the Shaffron's Subdivision of Kenosha, Wisconsin, noticed a car that appeared to be surveilling them, made a U-turn on Sheridan Road, and observed a Plymouth automobile with big fins, blue in color, with two men in it with Illinois license plates on the car. He was unable to obtain the number of the license plate. This car turned off of Sheridan Road about five blocks away and they saw it no further that evening.

She stated on the night of her husband's abduction, June 6, 1963, she passed her husband going in the opposite direction on Sheridan Road at about 10:30 p.m., that she did not follow him home, but continued to the north side of Kenosha where she obtained some clothing from her brother-in-law.

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAS ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND [redacted] enk Date dictated 6/13/63
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162-49-258

Date June 14, 1963

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WILLIAM COVELLI, 7827-36th Avenue, was interviewed at his residence concerning discrepancies existing between his signed statement of June 7, 1963 and a statement attributed to him by [redacted] of the Kenosha Police Department with respect to the location of a flasher light on the top of the automobile. COVELLI stated that [redacted] statement that he said a flasher light was a portable type which was located either in the middle of the dashboard of the automobile or was held out of the side window of the automobile by one of the occupants of the car was not correct, but that his signed statement to the effect that it was on the top of the car was correct.

He stated that he forgot to include in his signed statement information which he had supplied with respect to the names by which one of the abductors was called by the other. On one occasion the abductor was called by the name of [redacted] and on the other occasion by the name of [redacted]

He stated he had also forgotten an incident which had occurred to him on Wednesday night, June 5, 1963, the day before his abduction. He said he was returning home from Greco's Restaurant and noticed a car maneuvering behind him at 60th and 22nd Avenues, Kenosha, Wisconsin. This car was also noted behind him on Roosevelt Road. He said the car had a narrow grill in the front but could not otherwise identify it. Upon arriving home between 9:20 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on June 5 he picked up his wife and went for a ride to the Shaffron's Subdivision. He and his wife noticed an automobile following them, and they made a U-turn in the road and observed a blue Plymouth automobile with two men in it go by with Illinois license plates on the car. This car proceeded on about five blocks before turning off the road and COVELLI discounted any concern over the car because of the fact that it did have Illinois license plates.

COVELLI stated that on the night of his abduction June 6, 1963 while proceeding homeward on Roosevelt Road he observed his wife going in the opposite direction and believed that she saw him, would go around the block and fall in behind him, which was the reason for the statement attributed to him by [redacted] in the newspapers that he wasn't concerned when he was pulled over to the side of the road by a car because his wife

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND & [redacted] Date dictated 6/13/63

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MI 162-49

would observe what had happened. He stated that actually his wife did not follow him home but had proceeded to the north side of Kenosha to pick up some clothing from a brother-in-law.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that she was employed at [redacted] on the night of June 6, 1963 between the hours of 4 - 12:30 p.m. but heard of no incident involving the use of sirens or red lights at the intersection in front of [redacted]

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On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs [redacted] & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-260

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] with her husband [redacted] at this address, stated that she heard a siren at approximately 10:30 p.m. June 6, 1963, she recalls as Thursday. She and her husband had already retired to bed, thought someone was probably stopped for a traffic violation, and did not look out of the window to observe it.

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On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs [redacted] & ALEXANDER P. LE [redacted] Date dictated 6/13/63
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162-49-261

Date June 25, 1963b6
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[redacted] advised that during the evening of June 6, 1963 she was watching TV when suddenly she heard a siren out on the street. She went to the porch door to observe what was occurring. She stated she estimated that this must have occurred sometime between 10:00 p.m. that evening and 10:30 or 10:35 p.m. When she went to the porch door she stated that she was able to see very little as the street is extremely dark due to the fact that the trees bordering the road hang in a low position over the street. She advised that she did observe that approximately [redacted] she was able to see two automobiles parked along the curb facing south, one car along side the other. [redacted] stated that she was unable to see any individuals or figures or the number of people in or around the automobiles. [redacted] stated that she estimated the cars stayed there for several minutes during which time she saw a red flashing light on the car nearest the center of the road. She stated that, while she was not sure where the flashing light was located, she thought it was on the driver's side located in a position which would approximate the automobile post nearest the driver. [redacted] stated, however, she was not sure of this fact or the location of the flashing red light.

She advised that she did hear the voices of two men and one voice say something to the effect, "What are you chasing me for?" The second voice said "Get in there and don't ask so many questions."

[redacted] stated that she was unable to hear anything else said or any other voices or any names that might have been mentioned.

[redacted] further stated she did not believe in view of the brief time involved and the few words that were spoken that she would be able to recognize the voices of the individuals at any future date.

[redacted] stated that after the two automobiles were there for a couple of minutes, the car which at this time previously had the flashing red light and which was located in the center of the road, pulled away and went south on 36th Avenue and turned west on 74th Street. [redacted] related that as the automobile went by, she was unable to see the number of occupants or where the occupants might be seated in the vehicle.

[redacted] further explained that she did not get a

On 6/13/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs [redacted] Date dictated 6/19/63

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MI 162-49

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description of the car nor is she able to recall its color in view of the poor light on the street, but she does believe that it was probably dark in color. She feels reasonably sure that it was not a light colored car and she described it as one being of medium size.

Several minutes after the car pulled away from the center of the road proceeding south on 36 Avenue, a car pulled alongside the parked car again and, in view of the short time involved, [] stated that it might have been the first car that moved south, perhaps having gone around the block and returned.

[] again pointed out that she was unable to see anyone in view of the poor light but heard two car doors slam. The car away from the curb or the one located in the center of the road departed first, followed quickly by the car which had been parked along the curb. The second car moved south with its lights out.

[] again repeated that she was unable to describe the cars, the color or furnish anything concerning the license plates of the automobiles or the number of occupants either car contained.

[] stated that she did not see or hear anything of an unusual nature on any of the previous nights which might possibly relate to this matter.

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Date June 20, 1963

[redacted] advised that she is a [redacted] Greco's restaurant located at 2209 56th Street. [redacted] stated that on the night of June 6, 1963 she did not work but was at the restaurant visiting and she believes that she arrived at the restaurant at approximately 10:30 p.m. or shortly thereafter as she was told that [redacted] [redacted] had just arrived before [redacted] appeared at the restaurant. [redacted] advised that, when she arrived, [redacted] AL ALBANA and WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI had been playing cards and after a short period of time ALBANA and WILLIAM COVELLI quit the game. She stated that she estimated that WILLIAM COVELLI left Greco's Restaurant approximately 10:45 p.m., and he did not say where he was going. [redacted] stated that she did not see any cars or persons of an unusual or suspicious nature and she stated that she had no idea of the individuals who either abducted WILLIAM COVELLI or who would be desirous of doing such a thing.

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On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] Date dictated 6/17/63
[redacted] kaj

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162-49-263

Date June 20, 1963

[redacted] advised that WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI comes into his place occasionally and that he has known WILLIAM COVELLI for approximately 25 years. [redacted] stated that he opened his current place approximately two years ago and has had WILLIAM COVELLI's vending machines since that time. [redacted] stated that he would have no idea as to whom might have abducted or who might have desired and planned to do so.

[redacted] advised that he was slightly acquainted with ANTHONY BIERNAT, having seen him occasionally when he, [redacted] and he would see BIERNAT in the area of the Kenosha Yacht Club as well as occasionally bumping into him at different places in Kenosha. [redacted] advised ANTHONY BIERNAT had never approached him with respect to putting in BIERNAT's machines in his establishment, and he had never heard of anything with respect to COVELLI having approached BIERNAT with regard to buying into BIERNAT's operation. During the course of interview [redacted] advised that he is a good friend and well acquainted with [redacted] AL ALBANA, who resides on the second floor of his premises, as well as being acquainted with numerous other people known in the Kenosha area.

[redacted] stated that it was his recollection that WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI had gone to school in Italy and was supposed to have obtained a college education in the United States, place unknown to [redacted]

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SA [redacted] and [redacted] Date dictated 6/17/63

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162-49-264

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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b7CDate June 25, 1963

[redacted] residence [redacted] advised that he is [redacted] [redacted] Racine, where he works from the hours of 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. [redacted] stated that [redacted] is presently [redacted] and that [redacted] which has been owned by [redacted] is to be taken over by [redacted] (Phonetic) who is reportedly the owner of the building where [redacted] is located.

[redacted] stated he last saw WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI about the first part of April, 1963 at the Sportmen's Track in Chicago, Illinois and to the best of his recollection has not seen him since. [redacted] stated that he has not been down to Kenosha, Wisconsin since sometime early in 1963, perhaps January or February. He stated that he first heard of WILLIAM COVELLI's abduction by reading of it in the papers and that he has no idea as to who might have abducted COVELLI or who might want to abduct COVELLI for any reason. [redacted] advised that he has known WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI approximately 12 or 13 years and that he has known JOHN CHARLES RIZZO for approximately 30 years.

[redacted] stated that he took the job at [redacted] on or about [redacted] with whom he is personally acquainted. [redacted] was asked concerning previous employment and he stated that he had worked for a couple of days for [redacted]. He was asked concerning his frequenting Greco's Restaurant and the place immediately east of Greco's Restaurant in Kenosha, Wisconsin. [redacted] stated that he used to "hang around there" and that he [redacted] and, when asked to explain, he meant that he would [redacted].

[redacted] He was asked whether or not any card games were played there and [redacted] stated that there used to be a game of hearts and gin rummy and that most of the games of hearts were played over the weekend. He stated that these games would run until four or five in the morning and that over the weekend there would be present WEISER COVELLI, JOHN RIZZO, [redacted] (Phonetic), [redacted] AL ALBANA and others whom [redacted] stated he could not recall or declined to name. He was asked whether or not there were ever crap games at the [redacted] in Kenosha and at first he said

On 6/17/63 at Racine, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs [redacted] Date dictated 6/20/63
[redacted] kaj *ay*

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there was never any crap game but subsequently he stated that there might have been a little game on occasion. When asked regarding any poker games, [] stated that there might have been a little "low ball" but no real poker games. He stated that these games of hearts and gin rummy had gone on for approximately four or five years.

[] stated that he knew nothing concerning any of the details regarding the abduction of WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI and had no opinion as to whom might have pulled such a "deal".

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 14, 1963

[redacted], advised he has known "WEISER" COVELLI, as he knows WILLIAM COVELLI, since childhood but does not associate with him at the present time. [redacted] with "WEISER" at the time "WEISER's" father was killed many years ago. He does not believe "WEISER" would hurt anybody, is a "nice guy" and he has no idea why COVELLI should have been abducted.

[redacted] said he knew ANTHONY J. BIERNAT by sight, that he had a reputation of being a good man, and that he knows nothing of the cause of his murder.

[redacted] knows JOHN RIZZO of Racine by sight but is not acquainted with him. He doesn't know anything about "WEISER" COVELLI's gambling operations with JOHN RIZZO. He stated he does not believe there is any big time gambling going on in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

[redacted] said he is employed by [redacted] of Milwaukee, Wisconsin and has [redacted] in Kenosha, Wisconsin and in the county as far as Silver Lake, Wisconsin. Evenings he works as [redacted] for [redacted] who operates [redacted]. He stated he has heard a lot of gossip from [redacted] about the events happening in Kenosha but refused to divulge any of it because he considered it of no account.

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND & [redacted] Date dictated 6/13/63

162-49-266

Date June 18, 1963

AL "CADILLAC" AL ALBANA, contacted at his personal residence, 3029-52nd Avenue located upstairs over Dante's Tavern, was contacted on June 12, 1963 but did not talk in person to the interviewing agents. ALBANA stated that he had nothing to say and then added that he did not want to talk to the FBI. Shortly thereafter ALBANA answered a question and the interview was continued on the telephone with ALBANA:

ALBANA advised that he was in Greco's Restaurant on June 6, 1963 from the early afternoon until sometime after midnight the following morning. He stated that he ate his dinner at the restaurant and later in the evening he played pinochle with WILLIAM COVELLI and [REDACTED]. He also stated that he did not notice any strange cars or strangers around Greco's Restaurant at anytime.

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ALBANA advised he has not heard anything since the alleged abduction of COVELLI and has no knowledge about what happened other than newspaper accounts he has read concerning this matter.

ALBANA was very hostile towards the interviewing agent and stated that he would not talk about anything other than the matter mentioned above.

On 6/12/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SA [REDACTED] /lmp Date dictated 6/14/63

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162-49-267

Date June 14, 1963

[redacted] Kenosha, Wisconsin, was interviewed at her place of employment, Greco's Restaurant. She stated that she has been employed at Greco's Restaurant for a long time, and that she works days. She advised that she was not on duty on the night of June 6, 1963 and did not know until the time of the interview of the abduction of WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI. She advised that she is well acquainted with COVELLI inasmuch as he is related to [redacted] [redacted] of Greco's Restaurant and is a daily visitor of this restaurant. She advised that she has not seen any strange individuals in or around Greco's nor has she seen any strange cars with Illinois license around Greco's. She advised that she had absolutely no information as to why anyone would want to abduct COVELLI.

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On 6-8-63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # 162-49
by SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM /cef Date dictated 6-10-63

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162-49-268

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 14, 1963

[redacted], advised that she is [redacted] at Greco's and has been so employed for about three years. She stated that she is well acquainted with WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI inasmuch as he frequents the restaurant daily. She advised that she was working at the restaurant on the night of June 6, 1963 but that she does not recall seeing any strange individuals or strange cars in the area on that night or any other night. She advised that since she is [redacted] She advised that she has absolutely no knowledge as to why anyone would want to abduct COVELLI.

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On 6-8-63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # 162-49
by SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM *X*
SA [redacted] *ce/1* Date dictated 6-10-63

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b7C*162-49-269*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 14, 1963

[redacted] advised that she has been employed as [redacted] at Greco's Restaurant, Kenosha, since about the middle of January, 1963. She advised that she was working on the night of June 6, 1963. She stated that she recalls COVELLI being in the restaurant that night, but that she does not recall seeing any strange individuals nor strange cars in the vicinity of Greco's on that night or any other evening. She advised that she had not heard of the abduction of COVELLI prior to the interview.

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On 6-8-63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # 162-49
by SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM CA-1/cef Date dictated 6-10-63

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102-49-270

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 14, 1963

[redacted] advised that she is
[redacted] at Greco's Restaurant. She stated that she
only works there on an occasion or so each week and was not
working on Thursday, June 6, 1963. She advised that she does
know WILLIAM WEISER COVELLI and did not know he had been
abducted. She stated that she does not recall seeing any strange
individuals or strange cars in the vicinity of the restaurant
nor does she have any knowledge as to why anyone would want to
abduct COVELLI.

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On 6-8-63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # 162-49

by SA ALBERT B. KNICKREHM *K*
SA [redacted] *AK* /cef Date dictated 6-10-63

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162-49-271

Date June 19, 1963

[] Attorney at Law, Metropolitan Building, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the presence of his client, WILLIAM COVELLI, who was being interviewed at the Kenosha Resident Agency, stated that about five weeks ago when COVELLI had traveled from Kenosha, Wisconsin to Milwaukee, Wisconsin he had noticed an automobile surveilling him. COVELLI had come to Milwaukee, Wisconsin for the purpose of consulting with [] on a case which COVELLI has pending against him by the Internal Revenue Service. COVELLI and [] went to COVELLI's car to get some records and thereafter when COVELLI left the area with his car [] obtained the license number of a black and white Ford which she believed followed him. This license number, according to [] was Wisconsin license Q9131.

On the evening of June 7, 1963 attorney [] stated that with respect to the lie detector test he desired to make certain conditions under which it would be given. One condition was that it would be limited entirely to the matter of the abduction. Secondly, he desired to see all of the questions which would be given to Mr. COVELLI before COVELLI submitted to the lie detector test to assure himself that they did not go outside of the limitations he set. Thirdly, he requested that either he be in the same room with COVELLI or in another room in a position to oversee and hear the examination with the opportunity to interject at any moment should the questioning go beyond the bounds of the limits he set.

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[] stated that he would insist on the employment of a man named [] from Chicago as the polygraph expert.

[] was advised that we have our own polygraph experts who would give the test and that many of the conditions he set would not be in accordance with established practice.

[] then stated that he desired to give the matter some further thought and either the next day or by Monday would submit to the Milwaukee Office a letter containing the conditions under which he would permit his client to submit to a polygraph examination.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE Date dictated 6/13/63

GRAND/jmp

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162-49-272

-1-Date June 28, 1963b6
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[redacted]
Kenosha, Wisconsin, stated as follows:

For about five years [redacted] operated a gambling game (cards and dice) at [redacted] Kenosha. In the spring of 1949 [redacted] got sick, so he sold out his interest to [redacted]. Thereafter he disclaimed any knowledge of the activity at [redacted]. During the time [redacted] had an interest in the place, however, JOHN RIZZO used to come there to play on occasion.

In December, 1949, after recovering from his illness, [redacted] opened [redacted]. He conducted this business at several successive locations. Five or six years ago he was located at [redacted] which he hoped to sell. Since he wanted some other business to rely on he bought [redacted] located in Kenosha, in partnership with WILLIAM COVELLI. They ran [redacted] together for about a year and conducted a private gambling game upstairs. As there was not enough profit in this venture for two people, [redacted] offered to sell to COVELLI, but COVELLI instead sold out to [redacted]. [redacted] continued to run [redacted] for another year or so and then sold out. During the time he was connected with [redacted] he also sold his interest in [redacted]. After selling [redacted] he was without a business establishment for a short time but then again resumed [redacted] business.

[redacted] said that he had never been married.

He also said that JOSEPH GURERA, STEVE DE SALVO and FRANK BALISTRIERI were unknown to him except by name.

He said that he was acquainted with the fact that WILLIAM COVELLI's father, RED COVELLI, was killed, but he disclaimed any knowledge of the facts, saying only that RED COVELLI seemed to be a nice guy.

On 6/20/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAS ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND
and RICHARD C. THOMPSON /jb Date dictated 6/25/63

162-49-273

Date June 19, 1963

WILLIAM COVELLI was interviewed on June 7, 1963 at his residence, 7827-36th Avenue, in the presence of his attorney, [redacted] of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After obtaining the details of COVELLI's complaint, he and his attorney drove to the Kenosha Resident Agency in COVELLI's car where the statement was reduced to writing.

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The following is the signed statement:

"Kenosha, Wisconsin
June 7, 1963

"I, William Covelli, make the following voluntary statement to Alexander P. Le Grand and Richard C. Thompson, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the FBI. No threats or promises have been made to me to induce me to make this statement, and I make it of my own free will. I am represented by counsel, [redacted], who is present at the making of this statement.

"I reside at 7827-36th Ave., Kenosha, Wis. I was born Oct. 5th, 1919, in Kenosha, Wis.

"On the evening of June 6, 1963, I left Greco's Restaurant, 22 Ave. and 56 St., Kenosha, at about 10:30 PM. I drove out Roosevelt Road to the corner of 36th Ave., and made a left turn, toward my home. Just after I turned, I heard a siren and I saw a car that had a red flasher on top pull up beside me. I stopped my car, and the other car stopped beside me, on my left. A man jumped out of the car and opened my car door. I said, "What do you want?" The man said, "Federal Bureau of Investigation", and he pulled me out of the car and said, "This has gone far enough". Then he turned me so I faced the car and put handcuffs on me, behind my back. Then he pushed me into the back seat of the car with the red flasher, taking my glasses off after he did so. Then this man got into the back seat with me. He put a hood over my head. It seemed like a wool sweater, loose at the bottom where it came about to my chin. The car pulled away. Shortly thereafter I

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND & RICHARD C. THOMPSON/lmp Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-274

"asked whether they had taken the keys out of my car, but I got no answer. Then we drove a long time - maybe about 45 minutes. Nothing was said during this drive. It was very dark, and I could see nothing. I think we went over some paved roads and some gravel or dirt roads. I noted only about 3 on-coming cars. Then we stopped and the lights went out on the car I was in. Then someone said, "Get out." I couldn't move well with the handcuffs behing me, so the man who sat next to me helped me out of the car. Then either he or the driver took me by the belt, in the middle of my back, and guided me some yards and then down some steps. The man said, "Step down", and I went down one step. He continued similar instructions, and I kept going down steps-- maybe 3 or 4 of them. Then one man said, "Put your head down", and I did, but just grazed my head a little on some over-head obstruction. Then the man guided me forward perhaps ten yards. Then we stood around for awhile. Then I was guided to a sort of guard rail and held over it. Then my hood was raises, and I saw a hole with a little water in it. The hole was about 3½ feet deep, 7 feet long and 5 feet wide. One of the men had a small flashlight which was shined on the hole. One man said, "Do you know who dug that hole, that's where Biernat was buried?" - or words to that effect. I said I didn't know. Then the man who held my belt pushed me down onto the ground. One of the men had tipped up my hood so I could look into the hole, but he put the hood down again before he pushed me down. Then there was a wait. Then one man asked me if I knew who murdered Biernat. I said I didn't know anything about it. Then one man said, "Then we'll have to play a little Russian roulette!" He lifted up my hood and for a second or so and showed me that he was taking the bullets out of the cylinder of his gun. The gun was a short model, and I cannot say what calibre. The gun was dark. Then one man told me to get up. He guided me to the hole again and leaned me over the guard rail. Then one of the men again pulled up my hood and shined the light into the hole and said, "Who killed Biernat?" I said I didn't know, and he repeated the question about three times. Then one of the men pulled the trigger of a gun that was against my head just behind my right ear.

"Then the man that held my belt pushed me down on the ground again. This process was repeated about four times, and in between these episodes both men talked. They said I was lucky that I hadn't got the bullet and asked whether I knew what my chance was of getting it the next time. They asked if I were sorry for my wife and kids, as I was going to get killed. They said that the Covellis were used to getting killed, as my father was killed. They asked if I were afraid of the mob, to which I answered, "What mob?" One of the men asked who my partner was, and I told him it was [redacted]. Then one of the men said, "You are going to give us some names." I asked, "What names?" The man said he would take the handcuffs off and tell me what to write. He said, "You will write the names that we tell you". Then he mentioned the names of Joe Gurera and Steve De Salvo. I said I couldn't write any names down, if I couldn't prove it. The men didn't take my cuffs off, although they touched them once, as if they were going to remove the cuffs. One of the men said, "You introduced somebody to Tony Biernat." I said I didn't. He said I was lying, as Tony had told him so.

"One of the men had walked away, but he came back and said, "Let's take him somewhere else." Then the men pulled me up. We stood there about five minutes. Then one of the men reached into my left pocket and pulled out a folder of business cards. He went through them. Later I noticed that there were two slips of paper missing from this folder. The man also pulled some currency out of my pocket, but put it back. Then one man said, "Now we are going to frame you. I've got what I want - your handwriting - and he mumbled some other things. Then he pulled some hairs from the back of my head. Then I was guided out again. Outside we waited for the other man (the one not guiding me). Then the man that held my belt pressed something against my hand. I asked what that was, but got no answer. Then I heard a car door slam, and the other man came back and said, "O.K." Then we got into the car again. Nothing was said as we drove. I could feel that I was sitting on a blanket. About mid-way during the drive one man

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"said he was going to take my handcuffs off, but I shouldn't try anything funny. I said, "Do you think I'm nuts", and he took the cuffs off and told me to keep my hands in my lap. We continued the trip and I was dropped off in Kenosha on 60th Street and about 54 or 55 Ave. As I was dropped off, the man sitting with me in the back seat of the car turned me toward the car door, put my glasses in my shirt pocket and pulled my hood off just as he pushed me out the door. The car had stopped, but started up again even before the man in the back seat had closed the car door. I tried to get the license number as the car pulled away, but saw none - only a light in the middle of the rear end of the car where I thought the license should have been.

"About 10 or 15 minutes before I was put out of the car, the car stopped and the driver got out and did something at the back of the car.

"When I was put out of the car, the man in the back seat threw my keys out the door onto the pavement. He said, "Your car is down a couple blocks."

"The car looked to me like a 5 or 6 year old Plymouth of some color, not black. The flasher on top was smaller than those on Kenosha police cars. There was no lettering on the car.

"The driver of the car was slender and wore glasses. I estimate that he was about 5 feet 11 inches tall. I can't say anything else about the driver.

"The man who was in the back seat with me was about 6 feet tall and weighed about 195 lbs. I think he was about 45 years old. His complexion was ruddy. I saw him for only for seconds when he got me out of my car and when he released me.

"It was about 2 or 2:15 AM on June 7, 1963, when I was released. There are still some red marks on my wrists from the handcuffs. It is now 10:15 AM of June 7, 1963.

"On going through my folder, I observed that my drivers license is now missing, although I had it last night.

"While at the place which was said to be Biernat's grave, I said that I did not think that the F. B. I. treated people like this. One of the men said, "We aren't the F. B. I., we are friends of the F. B. I., and we do this kind of work, because they can't do it.

"I volunteer to take a lie-detector test on any of the material covered in the fore-going statement. I give my permission for the dusting of my car for fingerprints.

"I read this statement consisting of two and one half pages and it is true.

"/s/ WILLIAM COVELLI

"Witness:

RICHARD C. THOMPSON

Special Agent, F.B.I., Milwaukee Office, June 7, 1963

ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND

Special Agent, FBI, Milwaukee, Wis. 6/7/63"

In his oral interview COVELLI stated that about a month and a half ago two men had followed him from Kenosha, Wisconsin to the office of Attorney [redacted] in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and he thought that this car might be connected with his abduction. He said that Attorney [redacted] had the license number of this automobile. He said the number was license Q9131.

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He stated that the automobile with the siren and red flasher was an older Plymouth about five or six years of age. When he was let out of the car he attempted to get the license number but could not see a license plate. He said the red flasher was on the top of the automobile but it was different than the red flashers which were on the Kenosha Police Department automobiles. There was no insignia visible on the side of the car. He said that the car was not a black automobile but it was very dark outside so he was unable to determine the color.

He said the men in the car both wore hats, that one was about 6', 195-200 pounds, ruddy complexion, well built and had a large nose. The driver of the car was on the slender side. He thought the big man had on sunglasses. In the course of the evening one of the men addressed the other by two different names. Once he called him [] and the other time []

He said the car had a blanket on the rear seat which he felt when he sat in the rear seat with his hands cuffed behind him.

COVELLI claimed his blindfold was lifted briefly when he was at the site which his abductors stated was the grave of ANTHONY J. BIERNAT, and he was shown a snub-nosed blue steel revolver from which bullets were being removed. He stated that when his hands were handcuffed behind him when he was first arrested at 36th and Roosevelt Road in Kenosha, Wisconsin, he felt a revolver on the left front side of the body of the man behind him which he thought consequently might be an across draw holster.

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On completion of his signed statement COVELLI and his attorney [] driving COVELLI's car led SAs THOMPSON and LE GRAND to the exact spot where he stated he recovered his automobile. This was on a parking lot of a county garage located on 60th Street near 57th Avenue. He then led agents to the exact spot where he stated he was released from the automobile of the abductors and this spot was a few feet east of the intersection of 60th Avenue and 60th Street, the car at that point having faced in a westerly direction on 60th Street. This location was several blocks from the location which COVELLI had given in his signed statement.

COVELLI claimed he did not know the site at which ANTHONY J. BIERNAT had been buried and stated he had never been at the place. He claimed that when he was led from the automobile of his abductors while blindfolded he walked some distance and then was told to step down several steps and to lower his head and then he felt the top of his head brush against the casement of the door.

COVELLI and his attorney followed SAs THOMPSON and LE GRAND to the site at which ANTHONY J. BIERNAT's body was found and in taking three steps down into the basement of the farm house COVELLI pointed out that the top of his head just brushed the top of the casement of the doorway.

Examination of the floor of the basement was made with a flashlight to insure that no footprints which may have been left behind would be damaged before further examination was made of the premises and none were found. COVELLI then entered the basement and identified the spot at which BERNAT had been buried as being identical with the spot shown him by his abductors.

When interviewed in Kenosha, Wisconsin COVELLI had stated that he thought that the flashlight used by his abductors might have been a penlight because the beam was concentrated in a narrow area or the light may have been partially obstructed by his body since the light was never held in front of him and at no time did he see the flashlight itself. At the site of the BERNAT grave, COVELLI stated that the beam cast by a regular flashlight was similar he thought with the light cast by the flashlight held by his abductors and that he no longer believed it was a penlight.

During the interview of COVELLI at his home on the morning of June 7, 1963 his attorney [redacted] said that he didn't believe in lie detector tests, based on information furnished him by his mother who had been a psychologist for 45 years. He said he would not consent to COVELLI's taking a lie detector test under any circumstances. He said that he did not believe that they were accurate.

At the time a signed statement was taken from COVELLI at the Kenosha Resident Agency later in the morning of June 7, 1963 attorney [redacted] said in the presence of COVELLI and during the taking of the statement that his client (COVELLI) wanted to take a lie detector test. [redacted] said that this was really contrary to his own advice to his client. After this discussion COVELLI requested that his signed statement contain his desire to be given a lie detector test.

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After the COVELLI statement was signed and witnessed attorney [redacted] stated that he would embody further conditions upon any lie detector test given to COVELLI, namely, that he wanted to be present and that he wanted to screen any questions used in the test. [redacted] said that he wanted time to consider the matter further before any written consent was given by COVELLI for a lie detector test.

MI 162-49

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When COVELLI was interviewed at his home on the early morning of June 7, 1963, attorney [] stated at the outset that he was instructing COVELLI not to answer any questions except those pertaining to the alleged abduction. At the conclusion of the interview at COVELLI's home [] said that he was instructing his client to answer no other questions on any subject without his consent.

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During the interview at his home, COVELLI said that, if desired, he would make available the shoes and trousers worn by him the previous night as they contain dust and dirt which might be useful in identification of the place to which he had been taken. He said that while at the site of the BIERNAT grave he sat on the ground or floor during a considerable portion of the time and the shoes and pants presumably contained dirt from that source.

In the course of the interview of COVELLI at the Kenosha Resident Agency, he said that he operated the Kenosha Vending Company and has a route of cigarette and coffee machines as well as three jukeboxes. He said his business address was the same as his home address and that he had a warehouse at 2207-56th Street, Kenosha.

Date June 24, 1963

WILLIAM COVELLI advised that he had no further information regarding his alleged abduction. Asked whether he would give a yes or no answer as to whether he would take a polygraph examination on the facts of the abduction, he said that he would not without the consent of his attorney. COVELLI also declined to answer any questions relative to the BIERNAT murder, although it was pointed out to him that his abduction was apparently related thereto.

COVELLI was noticeably nervous during the interview. He said, however, that he was not particularly apprehensive during the daytime but that the nights were bad.

COVELLI stated that one of the reasons why he did not wish to discuss the BIERNAT case was the fact that shortly after the body of BIERNAT was found he was interviewed by a member of the Kenosha County Sheriff's Office and thereafter his name was mentioned in the newspapers in connection with it. He was told that was a good reason for dealing face to face with the persons he talked with, that if he had nothing to hide, there was no reason why he could not discuss the matter with the Agents who would keep the matter confidential. On the other hand, his refusal to discuss the matter left an implication that he had something to hide. COVELLI stated that he did not want to discuss any matter without the presence of his attorney.

On 6/14/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. Date dictated 6/19/63

LE GRAND/pmp

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162-49-275

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963b6
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[redacted]

advised that shortly before 11 p.m. on June 6, 1963 she heard a siren and saw a car with red light flashing pull another car over to the side of the curb. She believed that the flashing light was on the top of the automobile. She did not know the make of the automobile but said it was a dark car. The car which had been pulled to the curb was cream colored. She could not observe what happened. Shortly thereafter another car came by slowly and immediately thereafter the cream colored car which had been parked with its lights on was driven away after the lights had been turned off.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND/amp Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-276

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that sometime in the evening of June 6, 1963 he heard a siren and looked out of the house and saw two men take a third man from a car, put him in another automobile and drive off. Shortly thereafter the car dropped off another man who drove off with the automobile left parked at the curb with lights on.

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[redacted] stated he could hear nothing said by any of the individuals or supply any descriptions of the people involved and said he is hard of hearing but that [redacted] [redacted] had observed the incident.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND/amp Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-277

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963b6
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[redacted]
[redacted] advised that sometime about 11 p.m. on June 6, 1963 she heard a siren outside, looked out, and saw what might have been a white Cadillac automobile with a flashing red light on its left fender alongside another automobile. She thought there might have been two fellows in each automobile but she could not see anything distinctly because of the darkness. A man was taken out of the parked car, frisked, and put into the Cadillac which drove off. Shortly thereafter a second automobile which may have been a 1947 Dodge automobile arrived with two men, one of whom turned off the lights of the parked car and drove it off with the lights out.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND/imp Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-278

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that on June 6, 1963 between 11 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. he heard a siren, looked out of the house and saw what he believed to be a white Cadillac with big fins in the back with a red light flashing on its left fender alongside another automobile. They took a man out of the other automobile and put him into the Cadillac and left leaving the lights on of the car from which they took the man. Shortly thereafter two men came in another automobile which he believed was a 1947 blue Plymouth or Dodge which had a slanting back. One man got out of this car, turned off the lights of the car parked at the curb, and drove off with it with lights out.

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On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND Date dictated 6/13/63
imp

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162-49-279

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted], advised that sometime after 11:00 p.m. on June 6, 1963 she heard a siren and looked out of the house and saw a big car with big fins not too dark in color perhaps blue with a red flashing light on its side parked with another car. The men from this car took a man from the first car and drove off with him. This car must have gone around the block because shortly thereafter it returned, dropped off a man who then drove off with the parked automobile after turning off its lights.

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She disagreed with [redacted] that the flasher on the side of the automobile might be amber and she also disagreed with the time of the incident which she believed to be after 11 p.m. on June 6, 1963.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND Date dictated 6/13/63
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162-49-280

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that sometime between 10:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. on June 6, 1963 he heard a siren, looked out, and saw a Plymouth automobile not too dark in color with big fins with a flashing light which he believes not to be red but amber in color parked near another automobile. He heard the man in the other automobile say, "Now what's wrong?" He could not hear the response of the other man who put the first into the Plymouth and drove off. He believes the car must have gone around the block because shortly thereafter a car came by and dropped off a man who drove off in the car that had been left parked on the street with lights on. This man drove off with the car after turning off the lights.

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On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND/lmp Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-281

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] b6
b7C

advised that at about 10:30 p.m. she observed two men placing a third man into a dark colored automobile which was parked almost across the street from her house. Just prior thereto she had heard a siren which caused her to look out of the house. She saw no red lights flashing.

A few minutes later another car which she cannot describe dropped off a man who drove off with the automobile which had been parked with lights on at the curb but as he drove off he turned off the lights of this automobile. She stated she was not able to give any description of the automobiles or the men involved except that one of the men appeared to be a big man.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND/jmp Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-282

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that sometime about 10:30 p.m. on June 6, 1963 he and his wife heard a siren on an automobile and thereafter looked out of the window and saw two cars parked almost across the street from their house. They observed no flasher in operation at the time they looked out. They saw two men taking a third man out of a parked car and put him into theirs which he believed to be a 1959 dark colored Lincoln automobile. They overheard one of the men tell the man they took out of the parked car to, "Get in and shut up."

A few minutes later another automobile dropped off a man who turned off the lights of the car from which the individual had been taken and then drove off with the lights extinguished.

Because of the darkness he was unable to get a description of any of the individuals involved or the cars but believed that one of the men in the Lincoln was a big fellow about 6' tall.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-283

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 14, 1963

The entire basement, the area around the house, and the yard of the farm house where the body of ANTHONY J. BIERNAT had been found, was examined with negative results for footprints.

Tire treads were found in the yard of the farm house which were first photographed by SA [redacted] with SAs THOMPSON and LE GRAND as witnesses after which plaster casts were made of the tread at the point photographed.

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Photographs taken of tire treads and the area were made with Plus X film at 1/100 of a second with each position being photographed twice with openings first of F-22 and secondly F-32.

Each exposure had in it a piece of paper with the number of the position at which the photograph was taken. Positions Number 1 and 2 were photographs of tire treads located in the driveway of the farm yard and Positions 3 and 4 were photographs of tire treads taken in the yardway of the farm house.

Three photographs were also taken from the same position in the yard at different angles to show first the house, secondly the driveway, and thirdly the yard of the farm house.

On 6/7/63 at Rural Route, Kansasville, File # MI 162-49
SA [redacted] Wis.
by SA ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND SA RICHARD Date dictated 6/13/63
C. THOMPSON/lmp

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162-49-284

ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND and RICHARD C. THOMPSON examined the cellar of the farmhouse located in Kenosha County and at which the body of ANTHONY J. BIERNAT was found buried. It was observed that the floor contained considerable dirt and dust which had apparently been swept clear of footprints and other marks. There were, however, several faint and irregular corrugated areas. A plaster cast was made of one of these areas.

There were old pieces of paper, cigarette packs, and cigarette butts crusted with dirt which appeared to be there for some time. There was a cigarette butt of a Marlboro cigarette which appeared to be of more recent origin, and this was retained as an exhibit.

The BIERNAT grave was filled with water within about an inch or two of the top. In the water were several boards and sticks and probing disclosed that there were also rocks about. However, it is impossible to see the depth of the grave because of the murky condition of the water.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND Date dictated 6/13/63
mp

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162-49-285

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] stated he did not believe he was at home on the night of June 6, 1963 when an arrest occurred outside [redacted]. He stated he has heard of the incident from other neighbors.

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On 6/8/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-286

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted], advised she was not at home on the night of June 6, 1963 and did not witness anything in connection with an incident outside of [redacted] of which she has heard from neighbors.

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On 6/8/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND/lmp Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-287

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that
on June 6, 1963 she was so soundly asleep [redacted]
that she did not hear anything concerning the arrest of a man
[redacted] which had been related to
her by her neighbor, [redacted]

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b7C

On 6/8/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. Date dictated 6/13/63

LE GRAND/imp

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162-49-288

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that between 10:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. on June 6, 1963 she heard a siren, looked out of her window, and saw two men get out of a medium blue Cadillac automobile which seemed to be a huge car with big fins. This car was parked [redacted]

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[redacted]
The car, which apparently had been pulled to the curb, was a white Dodge station wagon. She heard the man from the Dodge station wagon say, "What did I do now." She said the other men mumbled something but she could not hear what was said. The man from the station wagon was handcuffed and put into the Cadillac which departed leaving the station wagon parked at the curb with its motor running and lights on.

As the Cadillac left the scene she noticed the car had yellow and green license plates which she identified as Illinois license plates with which she is very familiar since she drives to Chicago frequently to attend school.

She stated the Cadillac had a red light either on the fender or in the spotlight. She did not know where the siren was located.

She stated that the men from the Cadillac were tall men, had suits on but could not be otherwise identified. The man from the station wagon had on a white shirt and dark gray trousers and was bareheaded she believed.

She stated she thought the incident very suspicious and went to the telephone to call the police when she heard the station wagon being driven off. She looked out of the window and observed the station wagon going down the street with its lights out. She saw no other automobile.

She said she then believed she was being overly suspicious and did not call the police.

On 6/8/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. Date dictated 6/13/63

LE GRAND/amp

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162-49-289

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

advised that at approximately 11 p.m. on June 6, 1963 she heard what she believed to be a police siren outside but did not investigate it and therefore saw nothing of what happened outside.

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On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. Date dictated 6/13/63
LE GRAND/lmo

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162-49-290

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that between 10:30 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. on June 6, 1963 she and her husband heard a siren and looked out of the window and observed a car pulled to the side of the curb at a parking meter across the street and a short distance down the block from their house. They did not see any flashing red light at the time they looked out of the window. Two men took a third man out of a car and put him in their car and then left leaving the other car parked with lights on.

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They stated it was so dark they were unable to determine anything about the shape or make of the car driven by the two men although they believe it was a new model. Neither were they able to obtain the description of any of the men involved.

They believe that the car must have gone around the block because very shortly thereafter a car came back, a man got out of it, turned off the lights of the car that had been pulled to the curb and then drove off with the car with lights extinguished, turning right at the next corner.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE Date dictated 6/13/63
GRAND/jmp

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162-49-291

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that sometime between 10:30 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. on June 6, 1963 he and his wife heard a siren, looked out of the window, and saw one car parked alongside of another car a short distance down the block and across the street from their house. He observed no red light flashing on either car. Two men took a man from the car pulled to the curb by them in their car and drove off leaving the other car parked with lights on. He believed the car have gone around the block because a short time thereafter the car did come by dropping off a man who turned off the lights on the parked car and then drove off with it with lights out.

He stated that because of the darkness he was unable to determine anything about the description of the men involved and nothing about the shape or model of the automobiles involved though he thought the car driven by the two men was a newer model automobile.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE Date dictated 6/13/63
GRAND/jmp

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162-49-292

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that shortly before 11 p.m. on June 6, 1963 he and his wife heard a siren, looked out of the window and saw a car with red light flashing pull another automobile over to the side of the road. He heard somebody exclaim, "What do you think you're doing?" He thought that the flashing red light was on the side of the automobile which pulled the other car to the curb but his wife, who was present, thought it was on the top of the car.

He does not know the make of the automobile. He said it was a dark car. The car that was pulled to the curb he believed was cream colored. The men in the car he thought might have been a police car drove off with a man taken from the cream colored car. Because of the darkness he could not see exactly what happened. Later another car came by slowly and immediately thereafter he saw the cream colored car, which had been parked at the curb with lights on, leave after the driver turned off the lights. This car disappeared around the corner.

On 6/7/63 at Kenosha, Wisconsin File # MT 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND/lmp Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-293

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that he had no information about anyone being at the farm where the body of ANTHONY J. BIERNAT had been buried the previous night. He stated that he and his family had heard three shots that sounded like shotgun blasts sometime after 10 p.m. on the evening of June 6, 1963 but no investigation was made. He advised that fellows and girls do park frequently in the farmyard where BIERNAT's body had been found.

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On 6/7/63 at [redacted] Kansasville, Wis. File # MI 162-49

by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE Date dictated 6/13/63
GRAND/jmp

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162-49-294

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that sometime between 10 p.m. and midnight while they were watching television she and her family heard three shots which sounded like shotgun blasts coming from the vicinity of the farm where BIERNAT's body had been found. Gunfire is not uncommon in the area which is frequented by hunters. She has no information about anyone being at the farm that night.

She had a discussion with her husband as to whether the shotgun blasts were on the night of June 6 or June 5 but both of them then decided they were sure it was the preceding night of June 6, 1963.

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On 6/7/63 at [redacted] Kansasville, Wis. File # MI 162-49

by SAS RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE Date dictated 6/13/63
GRAND/Imp

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162-49-295

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that on the evening of June 6, 1963 at 10 p.m. he left for work at [redacted] Racine, Wisconsin, from which he returned at 7:30 a.m. on June 7, 1963. He observed nothing unusual and no cars and no individuals at the farm where ANTHONY J. BIERNAT's body was found on either of these occasions when he passed it.

He stated [redacted] returned home about 1:30 a.m. on June 6, 1963 from his employment as [redacted] but that [redacted] was in Hayward, Wisconsin and would not return until the following Monday.

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On 6/7/63 at [redacted] Kansasville, Wis. File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE GRAND Date dictated 6/13/63

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162-49-296

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that sometime after 10 p.m. but before midnight on June 6, 1963 he and his wife heard three shots which sounded like shotgun blasts coming from the vicinity of the farm where the body of ANTHONY J. BIERNAT had been found. This farm is located about [redacted] from the farm house of [redacted]

He stated that shots are not uncommon in the area and that they have made complaints to authorities because hunters and youngsters frequent that area and shoot high powered rifles with some neglect so that on one occasion a bullet hit a tree near their house.

[redacted] stated that sometime after 10 p.m. on June 6, 1963 an old automobile which he could not otherwise describe except that it had a loud muffler made four trips back and forth past their farm house. He had no idea whom the car belonged to or who was in it or how many people were in it.

He stated that fellows and girls are at the farmyard where BIERNAT's body was found almost every night.

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On 6/7/63 at [redacted] Kansasville, Wis. File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE Date dictated 6/13/63
GRAND JURY

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162-49-297

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 19, 1963

[redacted] advised that he returned home from work at 1 a.m. on June 7, 1963 and passed the driveway of the farm house at which the ANTHONY J. BIERNAT body had been found which is located approximately [redacted] down the road from [redacted] farm. He observed a black 1959 Ford backed up in this driveway facing outward. He observed no movement and no individuals and stated that this area is frequented by hunters and by lovers.

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b7C

On 6/7/63 at Kansasville, Wis. [redacted] File # MI 162-49
by SAs RICHARD C. THOMPSON & ALEXANDER P. LE Date dictated 6/13/63
GRAND Jury

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162-49-298

162-49

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
August 12, 1963

WILLIAM COVELLI
INTERSTATE GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

b6
b7C

The following is a characterization of informants used in the report of SA [redacted] dated and captioned as above:

MI T-1 is [redacted] at Chicago, Illinois,

MI T-2 is [redacted]

MI T-3 is [redacted]

MI T-4 is [redacted] who is closely associated with gamblers and other hoodlums in the Milwaukee area, particularly so with those in the Italian-American element and is aware of their current illegal activities.

MI T-5 is [redacted] of Italian-American origin raised with the Milwaukee Italian-American hoodlum element and who still remains in contact with this group.

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AS

File Stripped
10/26/65
HMA

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162-49-299

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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